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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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POINTED COMMENT

ON EVENTS OF THE WEEK NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

The Plight of the French Bourgeois—Taft's Lecture to Porto Rican Legislators—A Coach and Four Through Another "Anti-Trust" Statute.

Step by step the Shah of Persia is traveling the rough road that Abdul Hamid has now almost wholly behind him. The Shah has reached the milestone where a Constitution is pronounced by him as a thing his heart has long been panting after. All the while both Shah and Abdul are casting shy glances at "Western countries" and wondering how it is that the Shah-and-Abdul class in these countries manages so skilfully the "sword dance of the Constitution."

The way things are going on in Turkey and Russia the population of Eastern Europe must soon be thinned out badly. In Turkey the Young Turks (the revolutionary element) are hanging Old Turks (the reactionary element) right and left, over bridges and along roads. In Russia the Czar (Old Russian or reactionary) element are hanging the revolutionists (New Russian element) right and left, any and everywhere.

However mistaken, the bourgeois-republican delegate in the French Chambers who excitedly charged the Socialist delegates with being "tools of the reactionists," the poor fellow was sincere. The bourgeois republicans are caught in a cleft stick. They are not tyrants. No; not they! Consequently they decry monarchy, the institution that once tyrannized them. Below them, however, are the Socialist proletariat. While these have no love for the monarchist tyrant, neither have they any love for his capitalist substitute, whom they are seeking to dump into the same ash-barrel as his monarchist predecessor. The bourgeois radical stands between the devil and the deep blue sea. Every assertion on the part of the monarchists, forces the bourgeois closer to the Socialist proletariat. Every assertion of the Socialist proletariat forces the bourgeois closer to the monarchist—whichever way he move he moves towards a foe. So that alternately he looks upon Socialists and Monarchists as each others' tools. Fact is neither is. Inevitably the monarchists grow hopeful when the Socialists throw the bourgeois into a panic—but all in vain. The cry "Vive le Roi" will start a spirit no longer in France.

The "London Justice," organ of the English Social Democratic Party, in its issue of May 8, under the head of United States notes, states that the Socialist party in St. Louis increased its vote in the recent municipal election to 700 over last fall. Official figures, however, show that the St. Louis S. P. vote in the presidential election was 4,900, and in the municipal elections, April 6, this year the vote fell to 2,986—a loss of 1,934, instead of a gain, and that notwithstanding the S. P. of St. Louis fused with the capitalist parties on two candidates. "London Justice" is not doing justice to its English readers.

Among the property bequeathed to her son William Warren de la Poer Beresford by Lily, Dowager Duchess of Marlborough, the Hamersley American heiress, is "her estate in America." While our Protectionist Congressmen are growing hot in the collar over the Free Traders' readiness to allow "the foreigner to absorb our native trade," right under their own noses the noble British Lord, William Warren de la Poer Beresford, like unto a Congress unto himself, decrees taxes, corvees and other imposts upon his subjects who live upon his American estate.

With capitalist malignity despatches from France report the government to be taking precautions "to prevent the threatened sabotage" on the part of the striking postal employes. This is deliberate calumny. Sabotage—a term given in France to what in America is known as slummery, acts of wilful destruction of property, theft, murder and other riotous deeds—the sabotage is rigidly condemned by the Parisian strikers. The body is too clearheaded to be taken in by such methods, or by the I-am-a-bum element who practice it. It would give them short shrift, as French revolutions have often done before. Whatever sabotage is committed in the Paris strike will be committed by the agents of the government itself.

The Porto Rican Assembly having exercised the Legislative power of discipline over the Executive—the Power of the Purse—and refused appropriations, it is read a lecture by President Taft. The President's lecture has the familiar ring of the lectures periodically read to Unions by Union-loving Brother Capital every time the Union moves to a purpose. At such times Brother Capital says: "The legitimate function of the Union is to be brotherly towards Capital. Any other function is illegitimate: all other Unionism is bad." And so, now, the President informs the Porto Rican Assembly that the power to withhold appropriations is legitimate, provided it does not hamper the Executive's arm in wielding the rod over the Legislative.—Ecce Caesar!

Manysided stray-lights are thrown into dark corners by the litigation over the will of ex-President Harrison. Among the property left by the ex-President was a fund of $125,000 in trust to his widow. This fund was partly made up of stock of the Safety Car Heating and Lighting Company. In 1907 a neat little dividend of 100 per cent. was declared on this particular stock, but it was not paid in cash, it was paid in stock. Now the other heirs demand that this dividend stock be distributed among all and not given to the widow only—

First, note the lovely family relation existing among these heirs towards their mother;

Second, note that the Safety, etc. Company, which declared 100 per cent. dividend, hides the huge plunder which it levied upon the workers, by transforming it into stocks, which are presumed to represent investments, but which in this case represent profits only. By paying dividends in the shape of stocks the profits are beaten down in appearance—and the poor capitalist can make a poor mouth, saying, Lo, what small returns I make for my investment!

"Legal fiction," an invention of capitalist rule, has reached its grand climax in the decision of the New York Court of Appeals in the case of Locker against the Tobacco Trust. John A. M. Locker brought suit against the Trust upon the statute which forbids combinations that destroy the business of others. Locker proved that the Trust refused to sell to him, a jobber; that the Trust controlled so large a share of the staple articles and kind of tobacco, that the goods could not be obtained elsewhere; and, pointing his finger on the satutory provision, Locker maintained that the Trust was committing an act for which Unions are held guilty of boycotting. The Court dismissed Locker's complaint on the ground that, whereas a combination of several persons to withhold these products would constitute an illegal restraint of trade, a corporation [which consists of several persons, but by legal fiction is one person] can sell or refuse to sell as it pleases.

At first terrified by the consequences of their conduct, when the present panic broke out nearly two years ago and the masses of the unemployed crowded to the cities, the plutocracy is now hilarious over its misdeed. Speaking through one of its leading organs, the metropolitan "Sun," they now say: "The unemployed show a lively interest in food."

Another "law and order" pillar, the New York Central, is found guilty of swindle and has paid a $136,000 fine; whereupon still another set of pillars, with which the fined pillar is connected by means of architraves above, and of foundations below ground, to wit, a lot of coal companies, merge in violation of law and establish the Consolidated Coal Company. When pillars pay fines the act is only a raising of dust under which to commit with all the greater impunity fresh finable offences.

Lo, the voice from the Stone Age! A committee, entitled the Legislative Committee of all the Labor Unions of Colorado, have issued a list on which the "gray wolves" and the "black sheep" of the Colorado Legislature are named. In the Stone Age of the Labor Movement workingmen were so blind as to fail to say that all politicians, in and out of office, were "gray wolves" and "black sheep." The blindness of the Stone Age has not yet made room for a clear vision in Colorado—not even in Colorado where on-railroad-passes-traveling "labor" politicians like David C. Coates were providentially provided to dispel the blindness.

Again we say—the women teachers of this city who are engaged in the task of securing equal pay with the men teachers, are making experience. When the previous bill was before the Mayor he vetoed it on the ground that it equalized payment, and that such a thing was "immoral." At the hearing before the same moral Mayor, on the 11th of this month, on another bill which purports to do the same thing, the moral Mayor constantly interrupted the speakers in favor of the bill with words that indicated that the present bill did not equalize payment and that he had no use for it. Again we say—if these women teachers have their thinking caps on they will speedily graduate into the Socialist Labor Movement: organize with their fellow wage slaves: and, politically, through agitation, economically through action, strive to overthrow the "tax-payer class" and establish the Socialist Republic.

The financial report of the Cigar Makers' International Union gives only the modest sum of $173,505.67 as expended for "sick benefit." This is not right on the part of the Union's "Financier." The actual sum expended upon the Union's sick is at least twice as large; it is $354,245.18—the sum obtained when, to the $173,505.67, is added, as added should be, the $119,933.53 to "salaries and committee expenses"; the $42,296.71 to "Label agitation," which goes under the name of "Drinking Committee," a sort of tonic to the sick; the $2,051.05 to "attorney fees"; the $1,246.77 to "expense allowed on account of financiers' examination"; and the $15,211.45 to the mysterious item of "Sundries." The financial report of the C. M. I. U. is altogether too modest on what it does for its sick. Why hide its candle under a bushel?

From McKeesport comes the news that the Steel Trust has been seized with a religious spasm. Henceforth the mills are not to be run on the Sabbath. Evidently apprehending that the news would be received with incredulity by the unregenerated outer-world, the sender of the despatch closes with the explanatory paragraph: "It has been figured out that to give the mills one day of absolute rest in seven will save time and money."—The sender of the McKeesport press despatch is an unconscious wise guy.

Not being afflicted with a Gompers-Mitchell combination, that preaches scabbery behind the mask of Unionism, and with a Socialist party combination that cloaks the mask with the name of Socialism, the Unions of France are not heard declaring "we have no grievance," and, accordingly, are not seen remaining at work and scabbing it upon their fellow wage slaves of the Post Office on the firing line. On the contrary, Union after Union is joining the army wing that is in battle.

The New Orleans "Labor Record" having recently asked The People whether there was any trouble in this office with our printers, and having been promptly and courteously answered that only Arcadian peace and harmonious conditions prevailed here, it is now hoped—now that a New Orleans Trades Unionist inquires from the "Labor Record," through the columns of The People, how it happens that the Unionist "Labor Record" has a full page advertisement of the Douglas Shoe Company which issues non-Union made shoes—it is now hoped the New Orleans "Labor Record" will let us know.

DON'T BE TOO "RUTHLESS"

In sight of events in France the London, Eng., "World" observes:

"The events of the last few days have shown that the Third Republic is menaced by the greatest danger that has threatened France since the Commune. Sooner or later a protracted struggle with the social revolution, in the form of a general strike, will have to be faced with ruthless decision."

Which remarks suggest the friendly warning—Don't be too ruthless!

This identical Third Republic of France, at her very birth, listened to the promptings for "ruthless decision," and was thereby brought to the brink of ruin.

The ruthlessness of the decision that massacred scores of proletarians during the Commune days, and that caused shoals of workingmen to be deported to New Caledonia, was the very thing the Third Republic needed to feelingly persuade her what she was—a dependent upon Labor.

Intoxicated with triumph, demented with rage at seeing its wage slaves dare to claim the rights of man, the Third Bourgeois Republic went the length of such ruthless decision that she was left crippled. The dead could not be resurrected to start her factories anew; but the exiled could be recalled, the imprisoned could be set at large. The Act of Amnesty, which closely followed upon the heels of the ruthless decision, was in the nature of an apology and retraction. It was a sort of canonization of the Joan of Arc of Labor by the very body that had committed the outrage. This all happened thirty and odd years ago.

Can the ruthless decision be repeated? If it can would it be wise?

The ruthless decision in the early seventies of last century mightily promoted the conditions that the ruthless decider is confronted with to-day. To-day, more than thirty years later; with thirty years of added experience; with the vivid, undying recollections of thirty years ago; the attempt at a repetition of the ruthless decision of 1871 may have consequences that may recall to the London "World" the plight its likes found themselves in towards the end of the eighteenth century, after they had also counseled France to face the rising storm with "ruthless decision."

And, mayhap, the Waterloo of this century will be found to be "a boot on the other leg."

It were best for My Lord Capital not to be too ruthless.

DETROIT 'REDS'

NONE OTHER THAN BRUTAL BLUECOATS.

Police on May Day Tried to Stir Up a Riot of Workingmen Who Wished to Parade, but Men Refused to Be Drawn Into Fight—Truth Comes Out.

Detroit, May 10.—Though the "public press" outside this city grossly and purposely misrepresented the facts in the recent May Day parade here, the facts will not be suppressed. And it is no wonder that the interested press sought to distort the truth, for the happenings were one ugly mass of brutalities on the part of the police. Several local papers have published correct accounts and it will be best to let them speak. The "Michigan Union Advocate," Detroit, of May 7 contains in part the following report:

"In the affair of Saturday afternoon, when Grand Circus Park was turned into the stamping ground of a small army of police who had completely lost their heads, the workingmen there assembled showed remarkable fortitude; in fact, it seems that their very good nature goaded the police into a fury, and made possible much of the uncalled-for brutality that occurred. There was not one overt act that was not committed by the police themselves.

"The police were so frenzied that they arrested each other, and they were kept so busy showing their badges and proving their identity that they had little time to arrest the Socialists. Bobby Clare, a plain clothes man, was 'pinched,' and got hot under the collar when the patrolmen who did the pinching refused to believe that he was a real detective. Reporters from The Free Press and Journal were pinched and clubbed, simply because they were unfortunate enough to be wearing long hair on that particular day and were consequently mistaken for 'anarchists.' It was really the jolliest sort of a comic opera and would have been laughable throughout if some serious brutality had not been indulged in by the police.

"Ellen Donnenwell, aged 17, and her sister, Bertha, aged 25, were attacked by an officer who tried to tear off red ribbons they were wearing. Their father, Joseph Donnenwell, went to their rescue.

"He was an old man over sixty years of age. The police grabbed him and forced him down the street to the patrol box. Six of the burly brutes surrounded the old man, and as his pallid face was turned to heaven, they battered it with the leather throngs on their clubs. One, more brutal than the rest, struck him with his club and split his lip.

"Unlimited instances of the muttonheadedness and brutality of the police could be enumerated."

The same paper in an editorial justly castigates Police Commissioner Smith. The following is an extract of the editorial:

"In the 'battle of Grand Circus park,' held on May 1, the good name of our blue-coated army of supposed peace was dragged in the dust and there appeared instead an army of brutes, cowards and assailants that would put even the Russian renegades to shame.

"The Socialists made one mistake. They asked the permission of the commissioner of police to carry a red flag. They were wrong. They should not have asked any such permission, because he has no authority in the matter whatever.

"The commissioner attempts to tell the people what the red flag means. He apparently does not know anything about it. He is apparently more familiar with the significance of red lights and red chips than he is with that of the red flag. Furthermore, the Socialists have a right to carry a red flag and the police commissioner has no right to interfere. It does not matter what the police commissioner claims the red flag means. The men who carry it know what it means and that it is an emblem of peace. That was proven on Saturday, when the army of the red flag, even when brutally beaten and illegally assaulted still retained its composure and made a holy show of the police force. The army of the red flag proved that it was an army of peace on Saturday, while the police proved that they were the forces of violence, and unrestrained brutality."

The "Detroit News" of May 3 writes editorially in the same strain. The following is a passage from this paper:

"Police Commissioner Smith may thank his lucky stars that his unwise action did not precipitate a scrimmage that would result in some serious injuries or death. Had the Socialists been the law-breaking crew the presence of so many police indicated them to be, there would have been a serious outcome of the fluke. But it must be observed that the Socialists seemed vastly more inclined towards peace than did the police commissioner. The occurrence was most unfortunate."

THE SILVER CROSS.

"The Silver Cross," the next of the magnificent Sue series to issue from the Labor News, will appear in the Daily People beginning on Sunday, May 23. Subscribe now for three months and read this story. The Daily People Always contains good reading matter. Try it for three months, the cost is only one dollar.

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HOW CAPITALISM REWARDS BRAINS.

Chicago, May 16.—Professor Duke H. Bashford, formerly head of the department of applied chemistry in the London Polytechnic College, has become an inmate of the Kane County Poor Farm, at Elgin. He arrived in Elgin yesterday, hungry and emaciated, and after failing to receive alms sufficient to buy food and lodging, threatened to commit suicide.

Bashford was then taken to the poor farm, where he will remain until he has recuperated. He told of having wandered between Chicago and Elgin without tasting food in four days. The farmers along the countryside took him for a tramp and refused to allow him to sleep in their haylofts and fields.

Professor Bashford is fifty-five years old. At one time he was sought by many of the leading manufacturers of England and the United States to make analyses of food and drug products.

"The People" is the paper that you want. Straight and Truthful.

5,000 CANAL LABORERS IDLE.

West Indians Refuse to Work for 10 Cents Per Hour.

Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama, May 2.—Five thousand West Indian laborers, brought here to help dig the Panama Canal, have taken themselves to the woods, or rather, the bushes, because they are asked to work for the low wage of 10 cents an hour. The authorities, however, are not disturbed over this fact, and they are importing shiploads from the Barbadoes to replace those who are practically striking.

The "Canal Record," published under the authority of the Isthmian Canal Commission, in the issue of April 28th, reports the following:

"The importation of laborers at this time is due to increased work on the relocation of the Panama railroad, and also to the indisposition of idle laborers now on the Isthmus to accept the 10-cent rate of pay. It is estimated by the Quartermaster's Department that there are 5,000 idle West Indians on the Isthmus who came here to work on the Canal, and who were at one time in the employ of the Commission, but who will not accept work, although offered freely, at the prevailing rate of pay."

IN THE NORTHWEST.

The S. L. P. Building for the Industrial Republic.

Spokane, May 6.—The Socialist Labor Party is flourishing in the Northwest. The organization is strong in Portland and Seattle, with a large number of outside sympathizers. In Tacoma, the greater number are mill and mine workers, who leave town in the summer. In Spokane, the slum tactics of the false I. W. W. schism have led astray some honest workers, who do not yet see that the slum proletarians are worse enemies of the Industrial Republic than the capitalists are. Therefore in Spokane matters are more difficult and the S. L. P. finds itself somewhat handicapped. In other towns than Spokane, the work builded by Slummite Walsh is already crumbling to such an extent that that worthy disciple of chaos keeps close to the pastures of Spokane, where alone his followers are still submitting to be milked.

The ground of the Pacific Northwest has been well plowed for the Revolution, and even now some sprouts are forcing themselves through to the sun. Thus, Comrade Gillhaus, on his tour, found a soil where he could and did sow seed that will bear fruit.

The clearness and pointedness of Comrade Gillhaus' talk is just such as reaches home upon his listeners, with either confusion or conviction, according as the listener is a trouble breeder or an honest inquirer. We have both of those classes here and they both got just what was coming to them when Gillhaus opened upon them.

The S. L. P. national organizer was received with enthusiasm by the members and sympathizers who hold his name in especial esteem for good work done. And to those who beheld him a stranger he appealed at once by his directness, sincerity, and clear handling of problems touching every man. Added to the personality of our national organizer, he had the advantage of the S. L. P. position to create the powerful impression left by him among us. The S. L. P. meets all questions fairly in the face, full in the front, without feint or subterfuge, needing neither policy nor strategy; but invincible in logic, advances inflexibly like the crushing power of the solid Macedonian phalanx to the utter rout of capitalist clap trap and idealistic dogma. So does a man of sober thought, clad in Marxian armor, ride rough-shod over the errors of creed, or party, or philosophy.

Here in the Northwest we are glad to have our national organizer with us, to help us in an added effort to be heard and heeded this spring and summer. We expect to make progress here on the Coast before the fall hustings again give us their special opportunity to instruct the workers in class conscious organization.

So we proceed, undismayed by setbacks, uncarried away by small successes, arm and hammer blow on blow, to build firm and unshakable for the Industrial Republic.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

FIGHT 8 HOUR LAW

CALIFORNIA MINE OWNERS WANT IT UPSET.

Trouble Threatens in All of the State Mining Camps—Bosses Will Try to Have Courts Declare Measure "Unconstitutional"—Mine Workers Reject Compromise.

San Francisco, May 7.—The mine owners of the state of California refuse to observe the eight-hour law which is to go into effect on Sunday. They are going to take the matter into the courts and try to get a decision of "unconstitutional" rendered in their favor.

Meanwhile a crisis of the mining situation is expected in the event of their refusal to observe the statute.

Two thousand five hundred mines may be closed down. Twenty thousand men may be out of employment.

Already there have been lockouts or walkouts in some of the greatest mines in the State. The mine owners have offered a "compromise" until they can test the law in the courts. The working miners will not accept the offered compromise. It is known that in some of the great mining sections the workers will stand flatly on the law.

The mine owners have held secret meetings; have taken legal advice; have appointed a committee to carry on their fight, and have sent out a circular asking that the mine owners assess themselves on the basis of fifty cents for each man employed, the money to go into the fund for fighting the law. The mine owners are very generally responding with the desired coin.

The California State Miners' Association has taken up the case of the mine owners, and President W. C. Ralston with former Senator John R. Tyrrell as temporary secretary, are pushing the work of collecting funds.

Different mining companies have taken advice from lawyers Curtis H. Lindley, William M. Metson, Jesse Lilienthal and other mining lawyers, and the fighting committee has engaged Attorney Frank J. Solinsky to carry the matter into the courts.

The eight-hour miner law has been sustained in Nevada and Utah, but the owners' lawyers say they think they have found a case on which they can upset it in California, as it had previously been upset in Colorado.

The mine workers themselves are active. Officials of the Western Federation of Miners have recently been in California, urging concerted action and a stand together in favor of carrying out to the letter the provisions of the law passed by the last Legislature. This law gives the eight-hour work-day to all workers in or about underground mines—quartz or drift—and in or about smelters and reduction works. So the great smelting plants are affected as well as the principal mines.

DENVER CRAFT WAR.

Rival Carpenters' Unions Each Seek to Annihilate the Other.

Denver, Colo., May 12.—The feud between the two sets of craft union carpenters has at last broken out into open warfare. Master builders and general contractors' associations to-day declared a lockout of 2,000 men affiliated with the Building Trades council. The preliminary skirmish started on the Auditorium hotel, where the first non-union men were put to work.

Work may be suspended on practically every large job in the city before long, as all building trades affiliated with the council say they will walk off if non-union men are put on.

The contractors, however, have made good their threat to put on non-union men and force the fight against the council. Non-union electricians and iron workers were put on the Knights of Columbus building at Fourteenth and Glenarm streets, and on the Ferguson block on Stout street, near 17th. All council men, about fifty in number, walked out at both places. The contractors allege that non-union men are coming into Denver on every train and that they can supply 1,000 men in forty-eight hours if necessary.

Brotherhood carpenters, in order to help the contractors, are striking on buildings of independent contractors where other council men are engaged.

When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

DO INVENTIONS BENEFIT THE WORKERS?

A SLIGHT CONSIDERATION SHOWS THAT MECHANICAL IMPROVEMENTS ARE FOR THE INTERESTS OF EMPLOYERS.

By Axel Staal, Jersey City.

In these days of "hard times" many are the causes of unemployment set forth by different people.

A free-trader will tell you that the tariff on raw materials prevents this country from competing, in manufactured products, in the foreign markets. Take off the duty and you can put men to work.

The protectionist says that we import many things which we ought to manufacture at home; but, as there is no tariff on these articles, they can be imported cheaper than we can manufacture them here. Put a heavy duty on, and we can start to work here.

A wise prohibitionist told me the other day that if the workingman during the years of "unparalleled prosperity" had saved the money he spent for alcohol, then he could draw on this money now, and by consuming an almost normal amount of clothes, food, etc., keep everything running smoothly.

Still others claim that immigration is the cause of all our misery and unemployment.

But every class-conscious worker recognizes the fact, that unemployment is caused by the private ownership of the means of production and distribution, the machines and material resources of the country.

The machines are inventions, and we will consider them well to arrive at an answer to the question: "Do inventions benefit the working class?" When a machine is placed in a factory the direct outcome is the discharge of some workers. One man working on the machine can now do as much work as four to ten men could before the machine was installed. And even to the man who is retained the machine brings "results." He receives, in many cases, a cut in wages, as work on a machine seldom requires skilled labor.

The manufacture of new machines gives work to some people, but not by any means to so great a number of men as are displaced by them. If it did, then the cost of the machines would be so terrific, that the employer who wished a machine would make more money employing the men directly in his factory, than indirectly, building machines for his factory.

Such machines are means of production, but the sauce holds good for the means of distribution.

When the big automobile trucks take the place of the old "team and wagon," then a number of drivers will be laid off. The automobile truck can take twice as much load as the old-time truck and can deliver more quickly.

Some new men will get jobs making the automobiles, but a great number of stable hands, wagon makers, horseshoers and wheelwrights will be forced out of business.

In both cases less money will be paid out for labor, as the capitalists only put in use such inventions as are labor-saving devices.

There exist to-day inventions that would benefit the working class,—I thereby mean the safety devices to protect the laborer at his work. But to install these inventions costs money and they do not save any labor, so the capitalists do not consider them. The statistics of the railroads of the United States show that 4,000 employes were killed and 80,000 people were injured during 1908. A great number of these accidents could have been averted if the railroads had used the patents, the automatic block system, for instance, which at present are stored away in their safes.

But human life is not so important as dividends.

A short time ago a company in Detroit offered prizes of $10 to $25 for the best suggestions from the company's wage slaves concerning the business management. One of the points on which suggestions were solicited was: How to produce cheaper. The poor worker who suggested something would only suggest himself or some of his comrades out of a job, as the saving of labor is the only important method of reducing the cost of production. The prize offered is, of course, entirely inadequate as a reward for a labor-saving device. But it only shows the grasping greed of the capitalists.

Many an inventor has died in poverty. Whitney invented the cotton-gin only to see others derive the benefit, and while Carnegie was donating his toil and blood-stained money, gotten from the Pittsburg steel works, to libraries, the inventor of the rolling machine died in want. This is the common lot of inventors. But let no one desist from employing his genius even if no benefit to himself results.

As the interests of the capitalist class and the working class are directly antagonistic, it follows that an invention of benefit to the capitalist class will harm the working class, and only such inventions as benefit the capitalists are installed to-day. But the day will come when all inventions, both labor-saving and labor-protecting inventions, will be hailed with joy by the working class. When all means of production and distribution are owned by all the people and operated by and for the people, then the inventor will not die in want, then the life-protecting devices will not be covered by cob webs, and then will the labor-saving inventions truly be laber saving and liberty giving to the working class.

That day the Industrial Republic will be inaugurated.

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HOLD THE FORT.

Every poor man longs for heaven.
  Underneath the skies.
Not when he is in the grave-yard,
  But before he dies.
Every poor man knows that idlers
  Ought to work somehow;
He knows eternal life is here;
  The judgment day is Now.

Kings and creeds have crushed the people
  Everywhere we go,
Little children walk bare-footed
  Through each winter's snow.
Politicians still divide us
  As they have of yore,
But when men learn that they are brothers,
  They'll divide no more.

Then speed the battle, fast and faster,
  Fight for life and peace,
Men must triumph over masters,
  Slavery's blight must cease
When the sentinel in the watch tower
  Answers back, "All's well,"
This earth will be a human heaven
  And not a poor man's hell.

—Quotation by Bousfield in an address at Sydney, Nova Scotia.

WASHINGTON "SHE-TOWN."

15,425 More Women Than Men Herded in the Capitol City.

Washington, May 16.—Women outnumber the men by 15,425 in the National capitol and its suburbs, according to the police census announced today.

The census shows a total population of 343,003 in the District of Columbia, an increase of 3,600 over a year ago. The Negroes number 97,142.

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MENDELISM

[The below by Gaylord Wilshire, written as a preface to the work on Mendelism by R. C. Punnett, just published by the Wilshire Book Co., has more than one point of useful interest. Making allowance for Wilshire's claims about prophesies made by him, his pointing out the stray light that the biologic discovery of Mendel throws upon sociology should induce the reading of Mendelism by those who would widen their horizon.]

That society will change from its present Capitalistic form to a Socialistic form slowly by a series of minute variations has never appealed to me as probable. My own opinion has always been that we would finally come face to face with a great unemployed problem as the result of our inability to distribute our increased production, which is a result of our use of machinery, by our competitive wage system; that this crisis would be unexpected by the great majority of the people, and that it would be so acute that it would demand an immediate solution. The immensity of the unemployed army of workingmen would threaten the absolute destruction of society. The only method of meeting this crisis is to be found in the substitution of the co-operative system of distribution for the competitive system. No half steps will meet the emergency because they would not reduce the unemployed problem sufficiently to relieve the situation.

In other words, my theory of the change of society from Capitalism to Socialism is that it must take place *per saltum*. My scientific friends have all said that such a theory was against the Darwinian theory, that evolution necessarily proceeded slowly, step by step. Of course, I could answer that what applied to biology did not necessarily apply to sociology, but nevertheless I had to admit that the so-called Darwinian objection must at least be considered.

I could also point out the fact that the transition from an egg to a chick was a very distant mutation, and yet a perfectly natural evolution. That to all outward appearance the egg was just the same the day it was due to hatch as it was the day it was laid, but that nevertheless a change had been going on within the shell which was not visible to the eye, and which made possible the sudden transformation of an egg into a chicken. In the same way I declared and prophesied that society was undergoing an evolutionary development, that it was suddenly to break its shell of Capitalism and merge at once into Socialism. I found in The Trust in America a significant sign that this world crisis was at hand, because the Trust means the capitalists were forced to merge in order to prevent the production of more machinery, because they had already produced all they could use. And considerable cessation of the production of *new* machinery means the immediate development of a great unemployed problem, therefore the Trust was a significant sign of the approach of this great social problem. If it had not been for the destruction of property by the various wars which have taken place in the last ten years, the Capitalistic shell would to-day be very badly cracked. It is possible a war between Germany and England, or one between Japan and the United States, may again defer the breaking of the shell, but ultimately it seems to me inevitable that the transition from Capitalism to Socialism must come, and that when it does come it will come *per saltum*. As a final clincher to the argument for mutation in biology, the recent development of our knowledge regarding the law of Mendel is of intense interest. As Professor Jacques Loeb of Berkeley, California, writes me:

"If the Mendelian theory is generally applicable, as I believe it is, the logical outcome is that evolution takes place by mutation only. Almost every day brings new evidence in support of Mendel's theory, and none against it. This theory has shown itself more fertile than any other which biology has ever produced, and the guarantee of its correctness lies in the fact that it is possible to predict results numerically. In this respect it differs radically from Darwin's hypotheses, which lack that element of numerical prediction and numerical verification."

If then all evolution proceeds by mutation I think the case is still strong for my declaring the change in society must proceed by mutation. The most interesting part of the Mendelian theory is that it is a mathematical one, and this is what charms me regarding the theory of mutation in society. It, too, is a mathematical one. You can count up the number of machines and count up the number of men, and can prophesy the time almost exactly when Socialism must come in order to make a balance between production by machines and consumption by men.

Another interesting point regarding the Mendelian theory. Men can never be made all of the same mold if they are born with inherited characteristics which cannot be changed by environment. Socialism cannot reduce us all to a dead level if Mr. Punnett is right.

IN A SOUTHERN KNITTING MILL

By K. Kildare, Knoxville, Tenn.

Whiz-whir-r-r! Three hundred wonderful machines, the latest, the very latest, inventions of master minds, give out their continuous burr with an ever-changing accompaniment of melodious hums. Not noisy machines these, nothing deafening, nothing discordant in their low-pitched hum—no; these are of the gentle, sensitive, scientific sort, made like a watch, yet effective and musical withal.

Rows of wonderful machines, rows of women, rows of girls! You reckon these representatives of local femininity by hundreds. And this battalion of female workers embraces members of all ages, from the girl in her teens to the matron—or old maid—of fifty.

Cotton! Heaps of it. They use cotton by countless miles. But this cotton has undergone some mysterious process that renders it soft and lustrous as silk, indeed it apparently requires quite a microscopical examination by a skilled judge to detect its difference from the article known as the product of the silk worm.

Huge pyramids of cartons adorn the middle floor, cartons of every imaginable color, thousands of them. But vast as is their variety of hues still greater variety is found in the manufactured hose Every conceivable—and inconceivable—color is here represented, hues to suit any individual, native or Andaman Islander. Be your taste neutral or newfangled, oscillating or occult, passive or passionate, the factory turns out hose to suit you. Our guide informs us that the very latest in popularity is a pleasing shade in a delicate straw. Adjacent to the towering pyramids of cartons is a long string of female wage slaves engaged in embellishing the finished hose with embroidery. Clever girls with the aid of marvellous machines decorate the coverings of your "Trilbies" with pleasing designs in silk, designs plain or elaborate, designs weird, wonderful and varied, designs to please the most artistic optic; no end of designs here, variety, variety, and again variety.

On the lower floor are the capacious vats used for dyeing the hose, convenient vats that graciously empty themselves into an equally convenient creek that obligingly carries off the used dye into the flowing river. Here, too, are the drying ovens; our guide opens the door of one for our edification, and as we peer into the steaming contents he informs us that the men engaged in this particular department work on the "piece" system, by which a hustler can earn for himself a really considerable amount in wages—a "surprising" amount he calls it. And then we turn to examine these workers.

Heavens! are these 'free Americans'? Human automatoms with cold, soulless eyes and hard, expressionless faces—these American citizens? Bah! These creatures now favoring us with foxy, furtive glances from their shifty, narrow eyes, do you call them MEN? Are these lean "hands" befitting examples of America's manhood? Are they—these grim and sinister slaves of the factory—a dignified background for the rotund proportions of the sleek capitalist and his bejewelled, voluptuous wife? Is the nexus between the fat cormorant and his attenuated "hand" a human nexus? No. A glimpse at these wage slaves, these cowed, ill-favored specimens of civilization's manhood and their guiding employer reveals the terrible fact that the nexus between them is one of cold, sordid cash; it reveals the fact that between the plutocrat and his victim lies an unfathomable abyss of sweat, tears, groans and blood; a yawning chasm that can never be bridged by compromise lies between the sweated and the sweater, the oppressed worker and his pitiless capitalist master.

Those women—those rows of women harnessed by cunning brains to those marvellous machines—ye Gods! are these ill-clad, cadaverous creatures befitting specimens of our American womanhood? Feminine grace, charm, beauty—where is it? Buried, alas, under mountains of misery and poverty, annihilated in the grinding, ceaseless, jostling, cruel struggle for bread. For them, first and foremost, is the desire to rid themselves of carking hunger. For them no joys, no ideals, no genius, no greatness; for them the strangled mind, for them semi-starvation of both body and soul. For in the industrial conflict in which they are engaged Hypatia would die a prostitute, and Jesus Christ a pauper, while the lecherous boss and his concubine would ascend to the very highest pinnacle of earthly influence, the topmost rung in the ladder of wealth and power.

Private ownership of the means of life is the source of gilded debauchery and degraded pauperism. It is alike the womb of the "smart set" and the red light brothel. From it emerge your arrogant plutocrat and the starving child, your fraudulent bankrupt and your pickpocket, your jail bird and stealer of railroads. For the dear sake of private ownership the earth has been strewn with millions of corpses; for it human life has been counted as meaner than vermin.

But a new hope is being kindled. Ere long private profit and class antagonism shall be replaced by real liberty, real equality, real fraternity. Human salvation is nigh. The time draws near when, as Browning says, "Our reach must comprehend the thought." For those who now toil in murky factories and elsewhere under hellish conditions then the effulgent rays of perpetual day. And 'twill be soon, my masters.

AMONG THE ELITE.

New Book Portrays Pittsburg Smart Set in Raw Colors.

Pittsburg, May 15.—Pittsburg's newly rich are raked unmercifully in John Read Scott's new novel, "The Woman in Question." Advance sheets received here today caused a sensation. The author ridicules the members of the Allegheny Country Club, in which it is said membership was refused him. He describes members of the club in so thinly veiled a manner that it is plain to be seen at whom he is poking fun and sarcasm.

Scott writes of cigarette smoking women, tells of the fondness of Sewickley women who indulge freely in cocktails and mint juleps, and describes his hero as making love to widows who indulge in liquor and smoke in company with men in the club rooms. The Duquesne Club comes in for much attention from the author, who pokes fun at the bad grammar of some of the members. An effort will be made to suppress the book. Scott was formerly a member of the Allegheny County Bar, but is now a resident of Gettysburg.

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DANGEROUS MINES.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 15.—The "United Mine Workers' Journal" of Thursday, publishes a letter from a Kansas local of the Mine Workers' Organization, in which complaint is made of the dangerous conditions of the mine workings in southeastern Kansas. The union charges that there is no competent inspection of the mines, and that the state authorities are indifferent to the safety of the men. The workers are mentioning the likelihood of striking to have proper inspection enforced.

This local union has a grievance, and all because of imperfect ventilation, and either incompetency on the part of our mine inspector or a wilful disregard of the plainest duties devolving upon that office.

To be plain, we are in a deplorable condition. We have tried all the methods known to our organization and are treated with contempt, and we now resort to one remaining method outside of a strike, viz., public exposure, believing that the public press still wields an influence.

We are afflicted with having a farmer placed in charge of our mine as pit boss (Kansas demands no qualifications whatsoever), whose energy is directed after the mules and the mine takes care of itself.

Conditions became so bad we demanded an inspection and a deputy. A political appointee was sent. Did he inspect? The pit committee failed to get him to go around, as he appeared to have a mortal dread of going near the "working face" or off a main entry. His visit was such a farce that we again demanded that the mine be inspected and our committee was told by the State Mine Inspector, "Your local has no friendship for me." And so it rests.

Only four weeks ago a shotfirer reported to us that his life was in jeopardy because of the return air courses being choked and curtains torn down; he had complained until he was tired and, fearing to lose his life, he filed his complaint.

Under a former foreman we used to have bottom lamps to assist the cagers and make it safe for the men, and then only because a precious human life had been crushed out, but under the present regime we plunge down 130 feet into darkness, and the mercy is that no one as yet has been killed or crippled.

Air courses are either so choked up or else so narrow that in many instances the shotfirers have to squeeze through them sideways, and on the entries when falls of roof occur the roadway is cleared by throwing it into the mouth of the main traveling air courses and piled up along the sides, reducing the area of space to carry air. And this, too, in a gaseous mine. All that is needed is just a trifle more gas and we already possess all the other elements that go to make a first-class explosion any old day in the year. The air currents (what little there are) have become so sluggish that in many places the men have to brush their working places or run the risk of getting singed. And they do get singed. Only last week four of our members met with serious accidents. Two day men and a mule were badly burned because of a curtain being torn down for two weeks, although repeated demands had been made for a new curtain. This accident could have been avoided and was caused by the criminal negligence of those in charge.

Scarcely a day passes away but two or more of our people are swept into the beyond or mangled for life—a condition that is rapidly gaining for us the unenviable title of "The Slaughter Pens of Southeastern Kansas."

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ADMISSIONS AND DEFECTS OF MALLOCK

A FEW ERRORS IN THE ENGLISH ECONOMIST'S REASONING POINTED OUT GRATIS.

By Comrade, Meadville, Pa.

In one of the most readable fulminations from Socialism's tireless opponent, W. H. Mallock, on "The Missing Essentials of Economics," there are some very notable admissions as to the importance and truth of Marxian principles. His omniscience commences by characterizing the orthodox economists as childish in the account they present of the origin and meaning of capitalist accumulation. In the same breath he accuses Marx of offering us "sham science" in lieu of the docile theory found in orthodox text books. With unusual candor he proclaims that "the theory of Marx indicates for the first time the fundamental problems." With all his accustomed unmeasured dogmatism he declares that that theory supplies no solution. "Marx's survey of economic history broadly corresponds, so far as it goes, with fact, and must be accepted as forming one of the most important contributions to thought in the course of the XIX. century." (A greater authority than Mallock, the late lamented Carroll D. Wright, author of The Battle of Labor, expressed the same opinion in detail in his last volume, The Materialistic Interpretation of History.)

The first blemish that Mallock affects to find in the Marxian handiwork proves to be less considerable than a spot on the sun. Marx's formula for value as commensurate with labor is vitiated, he contends, by the fact that labor of the most skilful order is embodied in commodities which "nobody wants to buy!" The formula, that we say, is incomplete! Now, let Mr. Mallock be as fair as he can and admit that Marx's theory applies to the general mechanism of modern commerce, and, so considered, it still holds the field. The brain of capitalism is eternally facing and grappling with precisely the problem of producing only what people DO WANT. The trend of modern industry is towards such a trustification as will reduce the accidentals of industrial production to a minimum.

Next, Mallock twits Marx with providing no answer to the question which is Mallock's own, his pet poser, namely: Why do the minority, the capitalist class, continuously rule the majority, the proletariat? Here let us try to nail in its coffin the central dogma of Mallockism. "The Minority," he affirms, "represents the efficencies which have come to be most essential to the welfare, the power and even the existence of the community." This begs the question plainly. But that is not all. The Minority can only be said to represent the successful holders and wielders of the power over labor which is a necessary effect of the competitive capitalistic system. Countless thousands of the finest brains lose out in a contest which is primarily a contest for control of labor, a contrast which has little charm or positive horror for the finest spirits of the race. Carried to its logical conclusion, where will Mallockism end? In this, that as industry becomes centralized — as science and business ability, that is to [illegible] becomes more highly developed—the minority will become less and less. Humanity is about to experience a scarcity of ability in direct relation to the capitalistic advance! Yes, [illegible]k, you may throw learned dust [illegible]ur eyes and confuse ability with [illegible]s in business, but your stock ar[illegible]at will soon only be matter for a [illegible], the cheap support of a spurious [illegible]ocracy, the last straw of the [illegible]ning bourgeois.

Again let Mallock be as fair as he [illegible], and admit that this is a question which Marx assuredly does NOT treat in "Das Capital" under the conditions of social philosophy as a question in SOCIAL evolution proper. Marx treats the point of profit and production there as a question of industrial mathematics. It may be excellent tactics for the over-estimated champion of his bourgeois economics and religion in the interests of his clients, but is it fair to Socialist philosophy to use the lacunae of Marx's economics as the ground for a sweeping frontal attack upon the whole Socialist movement?

Outside of Socialist literature even what significance does the progress of human societies have for Mr. Mallock if it does not involve, as a primal factor, the gradual emergence of humanity from superstition of mind and enslavement of body with the growing recognition of the sociality of the race? The economic supremacy is assured—the last and naturally so, the last [illegible]my to social control. For a de[illegible]ed answer let us refer him to the scientific literature dealing with institutions, economic, religious and political. He will also be obliged to admit that the finest beings the race has shown were the earliest to dissociate themselves from the brutish domination of man over man, typefied in kingship, lordship, and ownership.

The new researches upon Christian origins are shedding a lurid light upon the real character of the movement associated with the propertiless man of Nazareth. Professor Deisman of Berlin, in "The Exposition" for February, March and April, has an illuminating article, "Christianity and Religion of the Lower Classes." And the most perdurable literature, with the universal ring of genius about it from Euripides and Isaiah to Shelley and Whitman, burns with the spirit of revolt, of spiritual antagonism, to insensate arrogance that places the lust of gain above the holy inward strength of individual, self unfolding manhood, and the holier social harmony which industry and the state and the church exist to feed and foster.

We shall see this argument directed powerfully against Mallockian scepticism more and more as the people come to consciousness of their destiny.

'Next we find Mallock resorting to a method of quizzing which is perhaps not surprising to those who have followed his career as public debater, or rather, umpire between distinguished pleaders, e. g., Huxley and Gladstone counsel in extraordinary to the British bourgeois, in trying cases of religious or economic doubt. Is the British public in doubt? Mallock himself has doubt of a deeper shade, and theirs becomes faith by contrast.

Let us come to his trump poser, "Why does the surplus increase?" the question runs. "A total does not increase because somebody abstracts part of it," is his triumphant refutation. Mallock, in fact, does not understand enough about modern capitalism to perceive that in the production of surplus—the Be-All and End-All of business—the constant means of increasing the surplus is the widening of the margin between Labor's product and Labor's reward. The proportion between wages and profits is just the factor by which we measure the success of the capitalist in his fight for supremacy. "If capital increases," he argues,—and I am at a loss to comprehend how such reasoning is admitted within the covers of the XIX. Century, and After, Magazine—"the surplus must increase also. Why does the surplus increase? A total does not increase because somebody abstracts a part of it." Could a twelve-year-old boy argue more stupidly? There is a larger amount available for distribution, owing to relatively lower cost of labor, evolution of mechanical efficiency, etc. The respective shares of employer and laborer show a tendency to vary inversely as the production. That is all. This reply cannot be avoided or rebutted.

Let us not detain ourselves over the succeeding lines of his argument which do little more than raise again the monotonous accusation of the imperfections of Marx's system, and he raises the accusation in a manner which illustrates amply the imperfections of his critique.

In a paragraph or two we would note a singularly feeble, if novel, explanation that he proffers for the growth of capital. It is due, he gravely announces, to the entrance into commercial life of the keen minds and powerful wills formerly devoted to war, learning, politics, theology, etc. I would suggest that these same keen minds and powerful wills are going to encounter in the Socialist movement the attack of keen minds and powerful wills that are resolved not to be slaves, who are sick of a Minority that, while about to enrich itself at the expense of the Working Majority, is unable to control production and secure social progress and equilibrium even according to the pattern approved of by that heavy and oracular "intellectual," W. H. Mallock.

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DRIVEN TO CRIME

CRIMINALS ARE A PRESENT DAY SOCIAL PRODUCT, SAYS WOMAN.

Mrs. Boyle, Sentenced for Kidnapping "Billy" Whitla, Writes from Her Cell Scoring Detectives and Asking Pertinent Questions.

Pittsburg, Pa., May 11.—The "Evening Leader" prints the following article by Mrs. Boyle, the woman who was sentenced to twenty-five years' imprisonment for kidnapping "Billy" Whitla:

" 'There is so much good in the worst of us, so much bad in the best of us, that it behooves none of us to talk about the rest of us.' We do not know our capabilities for good or evil till we are put to the test. I wonder if Billy Whitla, as a man, will thank the people who are instrumental in making him the direct cause of imprisoning a young woman, who was kind to him, when many other things might have happened. Will he be happy to know that he has deprived her of the only thing on earth worth while; deprived her of one who loves her very much, who has helped her over many hard places, who has always been a lover and friend, as well as a husband.

" Deprived her of the clinging of loving little arms about one's neck; the sleepy whisperings of a tender bedtime prayer and the press of a tiny head against one's heart. No. He won't be glad nor thankful, not if he retains the beautiful, unspoiled spirit he has now. But, fortunately or unfortunately, we cannot see into the future. Time alone will tell, and one hundred years from now we will all be but a memory.

" On my right is a poor, illiterate woman accused, with her husband, of selling liquor. She has two children and makes the night hideous with her cries for them. She does not know where they are or what they are doing, but she is not supposed to have a mother heart or to possess finer sensibilities. There is no dollar mark casting its golden rays upon her. Therefore, she mourns alone.

" Considering the fact that the almighty dollar buys everything and nearly everybody, is it so wonderful that people lie, murder and steal? The sin seems not to be in the actual crime, but in being found out. Have just read an article in a little newspaper hoping that I would languish in prison until my hair resumed its natural color and then becomes tinged with gray and my wonderful dreams of form and feature have vanished, as she is doubtless as guilty as her husband. I can well imagine the writer is not a woman, at least I would hope not. No woman is capable of such a heartless statement.

"Lucky for Billy Whitla he was not in the custody of the writer of that article, as he is a criminal at heart, but too cowardly to do anything but make Dante's Inferno a heaven, compared with his home. I wager his children, if he has any, dodge when they pass him, and his wife is held to account for the twenty-five cents he gave her last week. When my hair is gray and I am old and feeble, he will be already judged and, I hope, with mercy, as he will need it. Judge not, for ye shall be judged. God help our human blindness. God pity the heart that aches.

" The Perkins detective agency is sending my picture all over the nation, scattering it broadcast. I am innocent till I have been proved guilty, and I have not been proved guilty yet. Have I not any rights as a citizen of the United States? Surely things cannot be any worse than this, to sit here and let them prosecute me in any and every way they want.

" I refused to tell my maiden name for no other reason than to protect people who do not care for notoriety and who would far rather be dead than drawn into this case. It is a wonder they do not disinter my dead mother and photograph her to satisfy their mania for sensationalism. It is really too bad Mr. Perkins was not present at my birth and baptism. Probably then he might be able to fathom the identity of 'The Mysterious Woman.'

" Detectives are senile old buzzards, feeding on the garbage of human frailties—Jaspers with mental dyspepsia, who envy us our right to the earth, sky and air that God has given to rich and poor, just and unjust alike, and would very much like to put us behind prison walls for the rest of our natural lives. Because I speak English correctly and am not deformed I am represented as a beautiful vampire leading poor innocent men to death and destruction.

" I wish the penalty for kidnapping were death. Innocent as I am I would plead guilty if I were sure of being put to death. After death this case would be tried again before a Judge who is All Wise and before whom false witnesses are stricken dumb. My mother would attend that trial; and when the final verdict was rendered, she would know that her confidence in the girl baby she left had not been misplaced, and that when tried before a Judge who needs not the aid of counsel, jury or falsifiers the verdict would be 'Not guilty.'

" A boy is stolen. Prospective heir to millions. The people bow down in grief, cringe and fawn, not for love of the boy, but from adoration of the dollar sign he symbolizes. Hundreds of boys and girls are stolen daily by sweat shops, saloons and systematic betrayers and who cares?

" Billy Whitla was cared for, petted, unharmed morally or physically. Two families are frantic with grief. Others are stopping at nothing to give a life sentence to two human beings, to shut them up behind cold, gray walls, that even exclude the light of day that vainly endeavors to penetrate the darkness to bestow its blessing on the sad at heart and to lift the soul from out the abyss into which it has fallen through no fault of its own. Then and then only will the public be satisfied.

"'To err is human, to forgive divine,' is forgotten in the cry for vengeance. The real criminal in most crimes is the public at large, or society in its present corruption and disorder. Society makes crime possible, even necessary, then spends its sustenance in punishing the offender. Where is the least vestige of reform, in prison or penitentiaries? When will two wrongs make a right? A few broad-minded, clean-souled people openly declared their sympathy and tendered their assistance to us at the time when we needed friends, and we appreciated their kindness and good will, only to be hooted at for having the power of their conviction. A very Christian-like sentiment surely!

" Well, the Savior was crucified to satisfy the lust for blood. What mercy can two friendless, penniless, sinners expect? The community is aroused over this affair, the country rings with sentiment voicing our condemnation, and yet there is not a tear shed for the little ones whose very environments will make them criminals.

" As I sit in my cell I can see two boys. One about as old as Billy, but a puny, dwarfed little creature, the other three years older. They are singing, "My Country 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty." Of liberty. Oh, the irony of it! They are to be here some time. They have already been here over four weeks. Nobody has been to see them. Nobody seems to care. What life is open to them but a life of crime, and then the public will cry for their life. Oh! Well, it's cheaper, I suppose, and far less trouble to keep them behind prison bars till their little hearts are dead than it would be to give them one little bit of the affection that is lavished on 'Billy.' "

BIG COAL COMBINE.

Baltimore, May 13.—The Consolidation Coal Co., which early in March startled financial circles by announcing a stock dividend of sixty per cent., gave the public another surprise to-day when it announced that negotiations had been completed for merging the Fairmount Coal Co., the Somerset Coal Co., the Clarksburg Fuel Co., the Pittsburg & Fairmont Fuel Co. and their subsidiaries, including railroads, floating equipment, docks and other property owned, with the Consolidation Coal Co. This makes the latter corporation th elargest mining industry of its kind in the world.

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"The story lays no claim to economics or sociologic merit. It is an outburst of a warm heart, that bleeds at the sight of human suffering under the modern system of society, and that, animated by Socialist sentiment, sings the prose song of the ideal city. As a man of scientific training—a successful New Orleans physician—the author has built upon the solid foundations of medical science, and that vein is perhaps the most typical, as it probably is the most pleasing and instructive to strike and follow in the book."—New York Daily People.

FROM THE PRESS OF
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.,
28 City Hall Place, New York.

RUSSIAN WOMAN SUFFRAGISTS

THE WAGE EARNING WOMAN AT THE FIRST CONGRESS MEETS OPPOSITION.

Translated from Golos Social Demokrata (Russian) by J. Kresswell.

"The old year ended with a significant, much-promising event, which is of considerable importance to the International Socialist Movement," writes Clara Zetkin in a leading article in "The Gleicheit," in regard to the part played by working women at the Congress of Russian Suffragettes. Opposed to the rising reaction and the corroding apathy and indifference of the bourgeoisie, and the joyous acclamation of the guardians of the autocracy of Old Russia, appeared the "Opposition" tendencies of this Congress—the daring speeches and resolutions of the "Left," which reminded one of the well known battle-hymns of 1905-06. Who stirred up this spirited opposition at the Congress? From what quarter came these echoes of the revolutionary times? A small group of Social Democratic working women, numbering from 40 to 45 members whose mainstay was a delegation of thirty working women delegates from the St. Petersburg labor unions and labor clubs, were the ones who showed to reaction that its shouts of joy were too previous.

The first congress of Russian women has not only served as evidence of the popular tendencies, but has also contributed another important service, namely, to clearly reveal the class antagonism, the conflicting socio-economic interests which divide the feminine world, similar to the masculine, into two warring camps, a fact which was stoutly denied by the bourgeois suffragists. The idea of universal feminine unity had completely escaped these suffragists.

At the opening of the congress, one of the leaders of "univercsal femininity," Dr. Shabanova, declared: "The greatest danger to the emancipation of women lies in party discord; the woman's movement ought to be neither bourgeois nor proletarian but feminine." Other well known suffragists seconded these sentiments thus: "The woman's movement is above classes and parties." The main purpose of this congress was "to find the mutual and general interests of women of all classes, stations and conditions." It can be easily surmised how harsh and discordant the arguments of the proletarian suffragists sounded to the bourgeois suffragists. The workingwomen continually declared to the bourgeois ladies that as long as the present system of exploitation and class divisions exists, so long will woman be unable to become a really free citizen. When Comrade H. K. remarked that there is no woman question apart from the socio-economic question of our day, that the complete eradication of the evils of present day production is just as important to the woman worker as to the man worker, and that her complete and unabridged enfranchisement can be achieved only through a general proletarian victory, and when she furthermore argued that political equality for women, not the tax-paying set only, will be obtained with the help of the proletariat alone, then these champions of woman's emancipation, these defenders of universal femininity, furiously attacked the Social Democracy. "This evil and dissension creating party," said they, "has appeared at our harmonious ladies' congress to impede the great cause of woman's unification. Whoever thought it impossible for them to go hand in hand with us, ought not to have come to this congress. We have not invited them." Thus raved Mme. Mirovitch, forgetting about the previous declarations of non-partisanship. And the same lady unblushingly stated that at the International Congress in Stuttgart, the Social Democrats left the assembly hall in a body when the vote on the resolution for woman suffrage was taken.

In the same spirit of malice and thinly veiled animosity towards Social Democracy spoke mesdames Kalmanowitch, Milukov, Von Routzen and other suffragists. But on the tribune appeared one after another of the women worker delegates with their toil-worn faces, yet inspired by the righteousness of their cause, and, in a series of reports about factory legislation and conditions of women wage earners they unrolled before the well-fed and prosperous ladies a picture of privation and suffering. And enthused by the delegates the proletarian women delegates denounced the system which caused their privation, insults and persecution. Their arguments as much as said: "What know ye, women of an alien, well fed and prosperous world, of our sufferings, our needs and struggles? Why do you invite us to go hand in hand with you, when your prosperity and well-being is the price of our subjection and degradation?" For answer the bourgeois ladies babbled about "class distinction."

By their clear, class-conscious policy, the proletarian group compelled the bourgeois suffragists to reveal their true colors. The acknowledgment by mesdames Milukov and Tearkova, that the "woman's world is not free from class division"—was in itself a step forward. True, the "non-partisan" position of these bourgeois women at first forced them to prate about a general woman's league, or some sort of general national council of women but at the close of congress it was seen that these organizations were meant to be a league of bourgeois women's societies of all persuasions. And this, too, was a step forward!

But of far greater importance than the appearance of class-consciousness among bourgeois women is the fact that the proletarian suffragists became convinced of the complete dissimilarity of the problems and demands presented by the women of the working class and those of the capitalist class. If any of the proletarian suffragists, before the convention, entertained any doubts or nursed any illusions on this subject, they were later completely and ruthlessly shattered.

A PHOTO OF MONEY-BAGS.

Mr. Money-Bags' heart is in his check book. Strike him there and one hits the most vital portion of his whole anatomy. It is there that his whole body and soul is riveted. Here is a flashlight on the parasites who own Australia but manipulate the wires from London:—"The London investor is a consciencelesss individual. He resents being fought by the worker. He takes an organized demand as an insult, as a declaration of war, as an attack upon British industry, as an indication of a shameless lack of patriotism. He cherishes the idea that he may be trusted to deal fairly with his people out of his greatness of heart. So he may be—sometimes. At a meeting of a catering company the other day a dividend of twenty-seven and one-half per cent. was declared. You might have expected some mention of obnuses and congratulations generally. Not at all. The meeting was marked by an attack upon the girls who do the waiting at the scores of restaurants owned by the company, and who were charged with negligence, tiredness, and all round slovenliness. The girls get 10s. a week, and work long hours, and pay fares, and find themselves. It was too much for even the Britisher, and a host of well-satisfied customers dashed into print on the issue. But it fizzled out in a day or two. London seldom passes twenty-four hours without a new sensation to absorb its attention." The London investors, like the capitalist everywhere, have got no thought for the workers, they are merely machines for grinding out profits for the "specially divined" loafers—the capitalist class.—Sydney People.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	34,191
In 1904	34,172
In 1908	14,237

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Subscribers will begin to get the paper regularly in two weeks from the date when their subscriptions are sent in.

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1909.

Those who are happy are good. It is unhappiness that makes the wicked what they are. —EUGENE SUE.

A FIG UPON THE THISTLE.

To look for truth in the words of an insurance official is to look for figs on a thistle; and yet a fig has actually blossomed on those arid stalks. The statement made by John K. Gore, President of the Actuaries' Association of America, that human life would soon span 150 years, is no vulgar hope fathered by the wish—for long premiums—,but a deep scientific possibility.

The recent researches of Metchnikoff into the causes and prevention of old age, the rapid growth of preventive medicine, the speedily swelling volume of hygienic knowledge, all point to the gradual lengthening of human life perhaps beyond the 150-year limit conjectured by Gore.

And yet there are obstacles.

In 1655 the Dutch painter Vader Cats gave to the world his "Allegory of Life." An apple tree perilously overhangs a flaming pit. Precariously clinging thereto, and menaced by the fire-darting dragon of the abyss, while all around him on the bank hiss venomous snakes, hangs a man, straining to pluck the fruit of life. Glaring hungrily at him crouches a giant wolf, between whose paws lies the scraped-clean skull of a previous victim. And to put the supreme touch to the hazards of the ill-starred human, two rats are busily gnawing away the trunk which alone supports him above the roaring flames which threaten and the dragon which reaches for him.

Two hundred and fifty years have passed away since Vader Cats thus conceived the state of man; but the conditions which inspired that conception have not passed away. Rather have they grown worse in the interim.

Man's life to-day is laid through graver perils than Cats could know. Food that a respectable burgher of that day would not have fed his cattle has now become the mainstay of the people. Murderous trades and industries, then undreamt of, are all thousands to-day have for a livelihood. A degree of unemployment flatly inconceivable to a mind accustomed to the simple and easily-acquired tool of that time, now stalks through the land, with the tawdry badge of "Prosperity" tagged onto it. The destitution of millions, that a few may roll in gouty luxury affords an album of horrors which even Dante could not conjure up for his Inferno. On such a basis no century-and-a-half-long life can be built.

The life of 150 years may, probably will, come; but first the idle Gore class must be swept away.

SUICIDE OR PURITY.

Those who recognized, and so wrote to this office, the correctness of the passages in the open letter to Homer Folks (Daily People, April 28; Weekly People May 8) that "a study of contemporaneous Federal, as well as State and municipal legislation will reveal the secret that our legislators are hard put to it to find jobs for idle constituents"; that the process is a consequence "of increasing insecurity, if not downright inability to earn a living"; and that the process only tends to "spread demoralization," seeing that "it creates a class of official menials, with their heels gibed by the would-be menials left out in the cold" and who escape the mental strain of getting a job only by exchanging the strain for the "fresh mental strain to keep the job"; as well as those who wrote to express the opinion that the statement was an exaggeration;—all of these are urged to read the report of the trial of the Sugar Trust, especially the passages where the Government weighers who saw the frauds perpetrated, are examined and cross examined.

Of these the testimony of Government weigher R. W. Gascoigne is most luminous. It throws light upon the testimony of the other weighers, and by inference upon the whole subject of offices.

Gascoigne testified that the fraudulent practices by which the Company was cheating the Government were well known, and were the general talk for ten years. The Company's attorneys thought they could now discredit the witness. Gascoigne was asked: "Why did you not report the fact to your superior officers?" The answer came back like a flash knocking the attorney's plan into a heap: "Do you think I wanted to commit suicide?"

The answer clinched more than the mere question.

Other weighers had reported. Some were cashiered for their pains, others transferred to less desirable places. Those who reported were boobies who did not know (it is doubtful that they learned even after the experience) that the very cause that drove them to seek the jobs they held, constantly drives thousands of others into the same plight, and that that hideous "First Great Cause" is the hand in the glove of the alleged popular Political Representative, through the machinery of which the "First Great Cause" buttresses itself.

Capitalism breeds the unemployed and general precariousness of a living. Such conditions press upon the Political State for asylum. The pressure is answered by the creation of some jobs, some more jobs, but never enough. Enough jobs would be impossible. The pressure continues. Cause and effect meeting, corruption is bred, and it becomes suicide to be pure.

THE UNSKILLED AND UNEMPLOYED.

The classic ground for craft Unionism is Great Britain. True enough, the more fertile sociologic soil of the United States has enabled the plant of British craft Unionism to grow here into rankest luxuriousness. To that extent it is best studied in America. At the same time, the place of its birth offers exceptional insight into a type. It is to Great Britain that one must go in order to become clearly aware of that Achilles heel, that fatally weak spot of craft Unionism, which consists in its unavoidable dislocation of the working class by placing the Labor Movement upon false foundation, through keeping of increasing numbers of workers outside of the pale of Unionism. Not the least startling feature of the new budget proposed by Mr. Lloyd-George is the light one of its provisions throws upon this very subject.

The craft Unions of Great Britain have been clamoring for "State insurance against unemployment." Mr. Lloyd-George states that the Government's scheme, while including Trade Unionists, would "EXTEND ITS ADVANTAGES TO THE LARGER CIRCLE OF UNSKILLED LABORERS." Which means—

First, that the Trades, or craft Unions do not embrace the unskilled workers;

Secondly, that the Trades, or craft Unions do not look for the protection of the unskilled workers.

Summed up into one conclusion, it means that craft Unionism is a caricature of middle classism: it is a would-be job-Trust affair: it ignores and excludes the bulk and ever growing bulk of the proletariat: in short, IT IS NO PART OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT, PROPER.

Socialism often points to the phenomenon that it is Capitalism itself that plants the dragon's teeth from which springs up the army that is to overthrow it. As machinery and methods of production improve, in other words, as Capitalism grows, skill is eliminated from production and productive service. In even tread with the elimination of skill progresses the displacement of "hands," which means the increase of unemployment.

The Labor Movement can recognize no aristocracy. So long as any such there be the Movement can not reach its "steerage way." An "aristocracy" of "skilled labor" under conditions that are steadily digging the ground from under the would-be aristocrats, is an aristocracy of shoddy. Shoddy aristocracies are ash-barrel refuse. Not upon the skilled minority, but upon the vast mass of the unskilled majority does the Labor or Socialist Movement plant itself; and there stand also all intelligent "skilled" hands.

The ground upon which craft Unionism has drifted, and upon which it plants itself, is ground within the pale of Privilege. The train of Privilege ever trains after it, the ape-counterfeit—no worse foe to the Proletariat.

The rhinoceros, whose hide Roosevelt's bullet is reported to have perforated, and which then lumpishly curled up and died, must have been a very plain, commonplace quadruped. A beast, meat for a Roosevelt bullet, would have expired to slow music twittering between pauses: "Would I had the skin of the Standard Oil!"

POOR JOHN C. DAVIS.

Sitting on a stool with Bible and hymn-book in his hands, reading verses and singing hymns John C. Davis is described spending his time in a gloomy cell in the jail of the District of Columbia, charged with embezzlement, forgery and false pretences. This is hard on John.

Mr. Davis was the leading manipulator of the Potomac Loan and Building Association. Large sums came into his hands. Then came the collapse, with the net result that Davis landed in jail. Net results? No; that is not quite correct.

The Davises perform quite a mission in the scheme of capitalism. The Capitalist Class, that is, the top fellows, strain at concentration, and ever more concentration. Of course, they perceive not that they are thereby laying the foundation for Socialism, which means their own downfall. They believe they are for all time, and that they are working for themselves. So believing they complacently and uninterruptedly concentrate. But they can not do it all. At any rate, it would take too long if they were left to their own unaided efforts in embezzling, forging, false pretences, and the rest of the capitalist methods. The tribe of the Davises are unconscious tenders to the top capitalists.

The Davises are a sort of scavengers for the real capitalists. Prey that is too small to be seized by the large talons of the capitalist vulture, their scavengers seize, gather together, and, when the lump is large enough to be prehensible by the capitalist himself, something happens that dumps the scavenger,—and the lumped prey is appropriated by the upper fellows.

Thus Building and Loan Associations, small insurance concerns, co-operatives, etc., rise—and are sponged up by upper capitalists who never could have themselves gathered the separate particles. And the poor Davises, who took themselves seriously and did not know that capitalist swindle must be conducted on a scale large enough to break through the cobweb of the law—these poor Davises land in jail where they sing hymns, or indulge in profanity, according to their different temperaments.

It is a pity to see these Davises, so useful to the capitalist class, regularly cast off like that, treated by capitalist law even worse than the proverbial squeezed lemon.

HORDES, AND FRESHER HORDES.

"What excuse," asks George E. Johnson, Superintendent of the Pittsburg Playground Association in the "Psychological Clinic" of Philadelphia, "what excuse can be offered for the fact that, even in this land, more than one half of all the children born in the world die before they have reached man's estate?"

The present either Associate Editor or Editor-in-chief, it is not clear which, of "The Call," Mr. Robert Hunter, would have no difficulty in unraveling the puzzle that stumps Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Hunter's epoch-making biologico-sociologic discovery and invention, which accounts for the stoppage of the "Old Stock" American to produce children in the large numbers of former years, has the answer ready at hand for Mr. Johnson.

According to Mr. Hunter's combined discovery and invention, the reason why the "Old Stock" original population of the thirteen colonies did not stock the land with a descent of 80,000,000 nonpareils like themselves is that the country was flooded by hordes of degraded Europeans, whereby the sturdy Old Stock was prevented from obeying the old and sacred command "increase and multiply." In other words, The Hordes superinduced infanticide.

That accounts for the original infant mortality. The Hordes, however, did not suffer from the blight that they inflicted upon the "Old Stock." They increased and multiplied. Of that huge fifty per cent of children, who, Superintendent Johnson says, still die before arriving of age, a large number must be descendent from The Hordes themselves. How come they to be likewise afflicted? The mortality among their children can not be accounted for by the acts or the presence of the Old Stock. Only the Old Stock was hurt; it could do no hurting. What, then, did, and continues to do the mischief?

Mr. Robert Hunter's great biologico-sociologic law furnishes the cue to the answer—why, the fresher Horders.

Just so soon as the first batch of Hordes began to be acclimated, so to speak, to the Old Stock ways, a fresh batch of Hordes came in. The effect of the fresh batch upon the first batch and the Old Stock jointly was, of course, the same as was the effect of the first batch of Hordes upon the Old Stock alone.

Thus, in a self-perpetuating chain, every fresher batch of Hordes revitalizes the mischief of infanticide upon their predecessors. As there is no end to the waves of the Hordes, wave following wave, the shocking conditions, complained of by Superintendent Johnson, are scientifically accounted for.

The Hunterian law makes it all clear—Hordes and fresher Hordes.

CAN'T HIDE IT.

Charity Report Reveals Working Class Suffering.

That last year was a hard one for the poor in New York city is acknowledged in the new annual report of the Charity Organization Society.

"A much larger number of families than in any of the ten or twelve years preceding have had to ask for help," declared the report, many others have been able to maintain independence only by unwonted economies, amounting not infrequently, we must believe, to deprivation. How much actual suffering there has been this year, how much more than last year, no one knows, nor even how much has come to the notice of public and private charities and been relieved. Still less is it possible to estimate how many people have been living in poverty, in the sense of having had less food and fuel and clothing and other necessities than they required to maintain their efficiency; and still less, how many of these have been in poverty on account of the conditions of the labor market.

"What we do know, from our own experience, is that since last October our districts have had seventy-three per cent. more families in care than they had the year before; that whereas in recent years an able-bodied man has been almost an unknown character among our district families, he has this year been an increasingly conspicuous and increasingly perplexing factor, present in a fourth or a fifth of the families; that in other families the trouble has been that boys and girls have lost their work in factories; that homeless men have come to the joint application bureau in three and four and five times their usual numbers; that the wood-yard has given employment to three and four and five times as many men during the winter months as it did the year before; that able-bodied men and women have been applying at the employment bureau for the handicapped; that the reception agent has had a long line of callers who did not want relief, but information as to where to find work, or how to collect wages due them, or how to get a small loan; and that the deposits in the penny provident fund have been smaller and the withdrawals heavier in proportion."

False is the reasoning indulged in by the Socialist party man D. S. Webster in the Passaic, N. J., "Daily Herald" on the subject of woman's suffrage. Mr. Webster is against. His reason why he is an "anti" is that the effect of woman's suffrage would be to "postpone the Co-operative Commonwealth for hundreds of years." If Mr. Webster were right, then there would be no doubt that the capitalist class would hasten to enfranchise women. As a matter of fact we see the capitalist class, the Hetty Greens as well as the J. Pierpont Morgans, with their faces set against the innovation. No friend of the Co-operative Commonwealth, who knows what he wants, opposes woman's suffrage—"exactly the reverse, and to the contrary."

Of the two letters in the Aberdeen, Scotland, "People's Journal" of last April 24, one from Philip Snowden, the other from J. Ramsay Macdonald, explaining why they resigned in the manner that they did from the Counsel of the Independent Labor party, an act meant to be a demonstration against Grayson, the letter of Snowden should not have been written at all, and that of Macdonald should have begun and ended with the last paragraph. All talk about the tyranny of a "minority dominating a majority" is babyish. It betrays mental impotence. Macdonald's closing statement, however, that officers are handicapped in the work of internal changes because they appear to be defending their own actions, and hence his resignation was meant to free him from this handicap—that is healthily sound.

The tame monkey who threw a rock at his master's head to scare off a fly "meant all for the best," but probably gave his master a black eye. What an awful black eye was given to our much vaunted business purity when Wm. R. Hotchkin, advertising manager of Wanamaker's New York store, declared that business only grew honest in the measure that "it cost too much to get caught."

Hundreds of birds migrating from the south into Minnesota, have been overtaken by the cold wave and killed. Man, the "zenith of creation," endowed with a mind and the use of tools, has been stripped of his resources by the private owners of the means of production until he is as badly off as the birds.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around

THE BLEEDING BODY OF SOCIALISM

The front page of the May 15th issue of the Girard, Kans., "Appeal to Reason" is taken up entirely with the Warren Case—its history and the conviction of Warren by a Federal jury in Fort Scott, on the 4th of the current month.

The facts as gleaned from the "Appeal to Reason" itself are these:

Fred D. Warren, the managing Editor of the paper, was arrested and indicted two years ago on the charge of having mailed to one Pierson, San Pedro, Calif., a letter in an envelope on the outside of which was printed in red letters an offer of a reward of $1,000 to any person who kidnapped ex-Gov. William S. Taylor of Kentucky and returned him to the authorities of his State. Taylor, a Republican, was at the time under indictment in his State for complicity in a capitalist-political murder muddle; he was a fugitive from justice, and lay in hiding in Indiana, but has since been pardoned. No material fact was denied by either side at the trial. Taylor, who was himself present for the prosecution, admitted the facts therein. As to the defence, while presenting very satisfactory evidence that the alleged Pierson was in all probability a myth on the part of the prosecution, it does not seem to have attempted to deny that, at the time, it did mail letters in envelopes bearing the outside inscriptions as charged. Indeed, it seems to be admitted that the defense had and was in the habit of using such envelopes.

What are the obvious conclusions from such facts?

The practice of kidnapping supposed criminals was once a crime. It is a crime no more since the Supreme Court of the United States—over the head of the dissenting opinion of Justice McKenna, who emphasized the point that kidnapping was a crime by whomsoever committed—upheld the kidnapping by the Governors of Idaho and Colorado of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. If men, subsequently tried and acquitted, could be lawfully kidnapped even before indictment, it can be no crime to kidnap one who is under actual indictment and a fugitive from justice. If the act is not a crime, then suggestions to commit the act can not be criminal.

Furthermore, the publication of a reward for the capture of a notoriously indicted and notorious fugitive from justice can not defame the man's character, leastwise when he was never acquitted, and subsequently regained his freedom upon a pardon. Pardons presuppose crime: they do not presuppose innocence.

Accordingly, the lettering on the outside of the "Appeal to Reason's" envelopes was neither a public offence, nor was it the private offence of libel. The conviction of Warren is a gross miscarriage of justice—upon a matter, however, that no wise concerns Socialism, altogether a private affair.

The "Appeal to Reason," however, identifies the Warren Case with the "Social Revolution"; it calls the case a "mighty issue"; declares that "nothing would so thoroughly arouse the people of this country as the conviction of Warren upon this flimsy charge"; claims that it is Socialism that is being assailed; and, howling about "the enormous expenses" to which this cause of Socialism subjected it, the paper calls for money, its real objective—all this from the "Appeal to Reason," a paper that was and continues to be silent as the tomb over Preston, a workingman under life sentence for defending his life while on picket duty for his Union! The paper, that has not a word for the signal case of an innocent workingman doing life sentence in a penitentiary, has the shamelessness to pretend that "nothing would so thoroughly arouse the people of this country" as the wrongful sentence of its own managing Editor to an infinitely lighter punishment, in a matter, at that, which is a purely private quarrel between a private capitalist politician and a privately owned notoriety-seeking publication. That paper has the sordid vileness to seek to turn the event into an opportunity for turning a dishonest penny under the pretext of saving Socialism.

It is the same "Appeal to Reason," such as it was at its birth, such as it has continued to be every second of its existence—an appealer to the sentiment of the weak-minded; cheating them out of coppers with one bogus scheme after another; inciting the cupidity of the uninformed to its own sordid ends; like a caricature of Barnum, who declared there was a sucker born every minute, working only upon the principle, and carrying its unclean practices under the colors of Socialism.

Not at the hand of the prosecution in the Warren Case, does Socialism bleed—the "Appeal to Reason" and Socialism are two distinct things. The bleeding body of Socialism bleeds only from stabs administered to its character by the Barnums in the Movement to whom Socialism is but a catch-penny affair.

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PEARL BUTTON WORKERS.

$415 Their Average Wages in This Country—The Industry in Japan.

Washington, May 9.—In 1905 the value of buttons manufactured in the United States, as given in a special report of the Census Bureau, was $10,074,872. This was an increase of $3,564,709, or 66.5 per cent., over the value of the product in 1900. Of the total button product pearl buttons constitued nearly one-half (48.3 per cent.), or $4,870,274 in value. Over two-thirds of the pearl buttons were made from fresh-water shells and somewhat less than one-third from ocean shells.

The number of button factories in the United States in 1905 was 275. These represented a capital of $7,783,900, and exploited 11,335 persons, to whom were paid in salaries and wages only $4,691,669, or about $415.13 apiece.

The aggregate value of buttons and by-products from these factories during 1905 was $11,133,769. Over half of the 275 button factories in the United States engaged to a greater or less extent in the manufacture of pearl buttons, an increase of over 20 per cent. since 1900 in the number so engaged. New York, with 27 factories, produced pearl buttons in 1905 to the value of $1,844,432; Iowa came next, with 51 factories and products valued at $1,500,945; New Jersey, as the third in production, had 11 factories and turned out $480,765 worth of pearl buttons.

Imports of buttons from Japan, mainly pearl, although only $2,004 in value in 1907, have nevertheless nearly trebled over those of 1905.

The following prices are paid per 1,000 for work on shinju buttons: Boring the plates, 4.5 sen=½ cent); carving circles, 2 sen; boring two holes, 8 sen; per 12 gross, for cleaning in the drum, 2 sen; and for sewing on paper, 5 sen. For sazae buttons somewhat more is paid, the material being somewhat thicker, harder, and heavier to work. Boring out the blanks from the shell costs 13 sen, shaping surface, 26 sen, and boring holes, 12 sen per 12 gross. These prices are for size No. 16. Notwithstanding the cheapness of this work buyers have in recent years become very critical as to any irregularities. These are liable to occur as the workmen change frequently and in fact only take up with this work as a rule for the purpose of learning how to make more valuable buttons. Formerly both the making of blank buttons and the boring of holes were done in prisons. This is continued only in Okayama. Payment is made in this case by weight.

Up to a very recent date hand manufacture was followed exclusively. Not long since, however, a maker in Osaka installed a gas motor with which he drives a large polishing wheel for finishing both surfaces of the buttons. The Kobe factory plans the introduction of motive power, but up to the close of 1908 had not secured proper electric connection. The Osaka factory has had good results with the polishing apparatus installed, and many of the other manufacturers send their blanks there to be further worked up.

RUSSIAN SOCIALISTS.

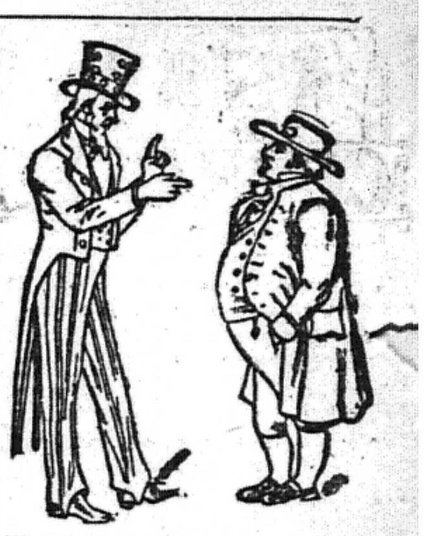
Sentenced to Siberia and to Prison Terms.

Moscow, May 14.—After many months of dragging, the trial of the members of the local Social-Democratic organization came to an end here to-day. Eighteen of the victims were sentenced to perpetual exile in Siberia, and twenty others are to be imprisoned in a fortress for terms varying from one to three and a half years. The exiles include Professor Rochkoff of the University of Moscow, whose connection with the party for a number of years has been a mystery to the police.

The Czar's agents were aware that one of the most competent members of the central committee resided permanently in Russia, but they never identified this man with the noted university authority on Russian history. When Professor Rochkoff was betrayed, he went to St. Petersburg, instead of fleeing abroad, and continued his activity under a false passport for four years before he was arrested in 1908. During the year preceding his imprisonment he produced a valuable work on the economic condition of Russia in the sixteenth century.

The other men condemned include Sparsky, a police judge, and Prosin, an instructor of the University of Moscow, who will serve respectively terms of two years and eighteen months' imprisonment.

A woman of Plymouth, Pa., was saved from drowning by the air under her "peach-basket" hat, which kept her nose above water until two fishermen came to the rescue. From the looks of things, capitalist society would better climb into a bonnet of the same design, and be right smart about it, at that.



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

UNCLE SAM—The class struggle is getting fiercer every day.

BROTHER JONATHAN—Again that nonsensical term, class struggle. There is no class struggle, I tell you. There is no hard and fast line between the classes. Any workingman by honesty, sobriety and sufficient effort can rise to be a capitalist. Consequently your class struggle is all up in the air.

U. S.—How many thousand dollars have you stolen in your life?

B. J.—I? Not one!

U. S.—Oh, I beg your pardon. How many kegs of beer do you consume per day?

B. J.—Sir, I'll have you understand that I'm no drunkard!

U. S.—Then you must be very lazy. How many hours do you spend in bed a day?

B. J. (ruefully)—I only wish I could spend the eight or nine, which are essential to a man's health. But I'm working ten hours a day in a factory over across the river, and it takes an hour to get each way and——

U. S.—Then you're not a capitalist yet?

B. J.—No——

U. S.—Well, don't be downcast. You know Hyde, McCall, McCurdy and other wealthy men worked long before coming into their millions.

B. J.—Do you class me with those legislative corruptors and misappropriators of funds, sir?

U. S.—Nay, nay! I was just thinking how clean and sober a life Steel Trust Corey and Tobacco Trust Duke and a few others live.

B. J.—What, those divorce court frequenters?

U. S.—And then what a pile of work Carnegie and Rockefeller go through at their establishments every day.

B. J.—Those sea rovers and globe trotters! (Beginning to see light) Well I swan! Tripped again! Virtue, abstinence and hard work don't have much to do with it, do they?

U. S.—Not much. Who, then do you think make up the wage working class?

B. J.—The shiftless and improvident——

U. S.—Not so. Some may be shiftless and improvident. Others are not. That which forces both sets to sell themselves into wage slavery is something common to both——

B. J.—What's that?

U. S.—Their being toolless, that is, non-holders of the necessaries of production.

B. J.—Call it that way.

U. S.—Consequently, not until Socialism is established, and every one thereby given free access to the tools of production, can the toolless, wage-working class be abolished. The class struggle is, then, no nonsensical term, but a real palpable fact. The discontent arising from this fact is so widespread and the experience of the people is becoming so extensive that the yarns of the capitalist parties to the contrary will not fool them much longer. They have been fooled by the money and tariff questions so long that they are now tired of such. They are ready for the seed of Socialism. He who does not preach the straightest goods is either too ignorant for a preacher or is a knave. This capitalist system must go and make room for the Socialist Commonwealth. Nothing short of this will do. So long as this capitalist system lasts the people will not only be paupers, but will be pauperized worse and worse. Your theory that I just pumped all the wind out of helps to suggest the enormous criminality and insanity of a social system a feature of which is that the larger the stores of wealth, the poorer are the producers. Away with it!

MAKE THINGS HUM.

The Weekly People is, as we all realize, a paper deserving of wide circulation. That circulation can only come, however, through the efforts of those who are interested in the spread of the movement. Every adherent of the movement should become a propagandist of it. Push The Weekly People. It builds Socialists.

When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

PUSH THE PARTY PRESS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Inclosed find five dollars for subscriptions. I hope the comrades in the industrial centers are waking up to the importance of pushing the Party press. Here, where the population is largely made up of one lung tourists, it is not so easy to get readers, and yet we seem to be doing as well as the rest of the country, which goes to show that too many of our Eastern comrades are not doing their share. Push the Party press, comrades.

L. C. H.

Los Angeles, Cal., May 7.

A PERTINENT QUESTION TO THE NEW ORLEANS "LABOR RECORD."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I learnt from reading some time ago an article in the Daily People that the so-called "Labor Record" of this town wanted to know why it was that the Weekly People," which had been coming to their (the "Labor Record's" desk for some time," did not have the label on it. I would like to ask the "Labor Record" through your paper, why and how it is that they are giving a full page advertisement to the Douglas Shoe Company, and still claim to represent the Central Trades and Labor Council of New Orleans, and the C. T. and L. Council of Shreveport. The organization to which I belong (the Painters' Local), which is affiliated with the C. T. & L. Council of New Orleans claims in its journal that the Douglas shoe is not a union made shoe. Is it not a fact that the Douglas shoe is not made by union help, and if so why is the "Labor Record" giving a whole page in their paper to advertise a non-union product?

W. E. Kern.

New Orleans, La., May 10.

PHOENIX, ARIZ., "I. W. W.'S."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The People readers have already been informed that several weeks ago the contingent calling itself I. W. W. here discarded their "direct action" demands and went in for politics. The readers will also remember that one McGarr, the star I. W. W. light here was anxious for the Democratic nomination, and not having received it he and his supporters went it alone. McGarr ran as Independent for the office of city marshal, and received 112 votes out of a total of 1,424 votes cast.

The interesting feature of the campaign was the arguments put forth for this "working class" candidate. Enclosed you will find some newspaper clippings and a circular issued in McGarr's behalf, extolling his excellent qualities. It will be seen that among the points in his favor as a working class champion are "Rough Rider," Arizona Ranger, U. S. Deputy Marshal, Guard at Arizona Penitentiary for two years, and that he stands for the enforcement of city ordinances. McGarr would see that the laws against gambling and trafficking in whiskey should be lived up to.

Are not those splendid qualification for a "working class" candidate, and isn't the program a "labor" one preeminently?

To wind up their circular, the "Independent Central Committee," who supplied the campaign literature for McGarr, tacked on this paragraph:

"We have no politics. We propose to sell our vote hereafter to those who will return the favor by giving us, the working class, representation. It is work we want for our members. The friends who help us now can count on help from us when they want help, regardless of politics or policies."

Comment is unnecessary. The wide-awake workingman will realize the need to steer clear of such a pack of political traders.

Up with the true proletarian colors, the Socialist Labor Party!

L. A.

Phoenix, Ariz., May 2.

S. L. P. AT WORK IN CHICAGO.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Rudowitz meeting held in Hull House last Sunday afternoon was, all things considered, fairly successful. I. Friedman acted as chairman and after a few well chosen remarks introduced Miss Jane Addams who delivered a short address on the Treaty of Extradition. Her speech was well received.

A collection was called for. This done, the chairman introduced Sam J. French who spoke for over an hour upon the infamous treaty, and the part played in the persecution of Rudowitz and Pouren. He called called attention to the vital necessity of keeping up the agitation for the abrogation of the Russian treaty of extraditing political refugees. French closed his address with an eloquent appeal in behalf of Rudowitz, and his family. The committee in charge of the Rudowitz Fund is making progress, and we hope to be able to report by the end of this month that the necessary amount ($200) to get Rudowitz's family from Russia, will have been raised.

Bad weather has hampered us to some extent in our outdoor agitation but just as soon as possible we will get busy.

The sailors' headquarters is located at the corner of Madison and Union streets. This is a good location for street meetings, and as quite a number of the sailors who are now out on strike congregate there we shall take advantage of this opportunity by holding forth at that corner.

If all goes well I will be engaged during the months of June, July, August and September in Chicago and in the state of Indiana as canvasser, and am in hopes of meeting with success.

The Swedish comrades are making good progress. They have now some five or six branches organized in and around the city.

The Jewish Branch is adding new members so are the Lettish and Hungarian branches. All this has been accomplished through persistent agitation.

Our English branch has been lagging a little behind the rest, but we are in hopes of catching up before the summer is over.

Chas. Pierson.

Chicago, Ill., May 9.

THE DAILY PEOPLE GOOD EVERYWHERE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Your solicitor in this part of the country called at my house to get me to continue subscribing for the Daily People. I gladly did so. While the paper is fine for people who live in and around New York, it is also good for one living at such a great distance from New York as I do. Though I get the paper on the third day after it leaves the press "if the train makes connection, or rather run on schedule time," the news is still four to six hours ahead of the news of the local papers.

I often receive my paper four or six days late, still I get news which I could never get in New Orleans' papers. Therefore I cheerfully renew my subscription.

W. E. Kern.

New Orleans, La., May 11.

SOCIALIST ALWAYS ALERT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—When I opened The People of Sunday, April 25, I saw an article by K. Kildare, of Knoxville, Tenn., called "The Case for the Other Side." I read it over, and where Kildare refers to the fact that a Socialist never grows old because he knows Socialism is IT, I was reminded of my case.

Two years ago I was fortunate enough to secure a job on the street cars, and I no sooner became somewhat acquainted with my fellow workers than I began speaking Socialism and industrial unionism to them, but I didn't make much headway. They were attached to their union and would say to me: "If it were not for our union we would be getting ten cents an hour for our labor instead of twenty-seven cents." I had to wait for a chance to show them the error of their reasoning, and it was not long before my opportunity came.

I picked up the Union Leader of Pittsburg, of May 8, and noticed that the three and one-half cent an hour increase which the Pittsburg men had voted to ask for or strike if refused it, was made out of the question because Mahon, international president of the trolley men, had told them so. I called the attention of my fellow workers to this fact, and asked them if they still believed their union could do such wonders for them.

I then quoted another Pittsburg paper which said: "Things that have been said about President Mahon being a great pacificator have been borne out by the manner in which he has handled the situation in this city. When the leader of the street car men was called to Pittsburg a week ago, the men were ready to strike as soon as the national executive committee would sanction such action. It did not take Mahon long to decide that the increase of wages was out of question in Pittsburg under present conditions. He went carefully at every point and secured many concessions for the men in the way of working conditions."

I also read to the men a statement of President Callery's, of the Pittsburg Street Car Co., wherein he paid Mahon a compliment, saying that Mahon was the most level-headed labor leader he had ever met.

When I got through my co-workers had to admit my contentions. So I seized the opportunity to show what a difference it would make if we were organized industrially. I showed them the article of J. A. Arnold on Craft versus Industrial Unionism, which was also in the April 25th issue of The People. Arnold had used as an illustration to strengthen the position of industrial organization the late lamented strike of Louisville trolleymen. Well, that was a clincher and I got nine men to subscribe for the Weekly People. I am sending you money order for $5.25, two of which are one year's subs.

I think that the comrades all over the country should write up such things as John D. Goerke, of Cleveland, wrote on last week on "The Cleveland Trolley Strike," and as Arnold wrote regarding the Louisville affair. It will give us all material with which to work in pushing the party press. I hope there will be responses to this call and suggestion.

S. Ungerlider.

Chicago, Ill., May 11.

"TWO PAGES FROM ROMAN HISTORY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I have just read the pamphlet entitled, "Two Pages from Roman History" by De Leon. It is the most forceful exposition of the part played by some shining labor leaders of to-day. It is a warning to the proletarian. All workers ought to read it; it is the best eye opener I ever had.

Louis Moreau.

Cheyenne, Wyoming, May 7.

MAY DAY IN LOS ANGELES.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Los Angeles, Socialist Labor Party, had its monthly entertainment and dance on Saturday evening, May 1, and fittingly celebrated International Labor Day with speech making, songs, recitations and merry making. H. J. Schade was the speaker of the evening and his remarks were well received. J. C. Hurley, Mrs. S. Bast and Max Biell assisted on the program. We had also with us a German member of the S. P. We cleared $11.95 for the Section treasury.

Our dances and entertainments are given on the first Saturday of every month, and readers of The People, Socialist Arbeiter Zeitung, and other Party organs are cordially invited to take part.

Press Committee.

Los Angeles, Cal., May 2.

MAY DAY MEETING IN SEATTLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The celebration of International Labor Day was held here on May 2. The different Socialist Labor Party organizations, the English section, German Branch, Lettish Federation, and the Scandinavian section, are compelling notice to be taken of them. They each had their own program, all of which were carried out with marked success.

The Scandinavian Discussion Club celebrated in Maccabee Hall with speeches, music, and dancing. The English section held forth in Columbia Hall with a like program. The two halls hold between 500 and 600 each; and were filled to overflowing.

As many as eighty to ninety Daily People have been sold in Maccabee Hall at one meeting, with the aid of lady news-venders circulating among the crowd. Our main object is to spread literature; our speakers lay stress upon it. If we can but induce a man to read the Party Press, we have confidence in winning him to economic truth, where spoken words die away with the voice.

E. H. Fogerty.

Seattle, May 2.

AT IT AGAIN IN SCHENECTADY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Just a few lines to inform the Party membership that the Schenectady S. L. P. is an active factor in the proletarian fight for emancipation. This evening the "dead S. L. P." and the Hungarian Socialist Labor Federation Local bought itself a home in which to carry on agitation and organization and the local Socialist Party-ites are "up-in-the-air" over the fact, and do not conceal their chagrin, because they cannot understand how a "dead" organization can buy a headquarters; they have got the "bunch," but we have got the men. A Hungarian S. P.-ite in the shop said to one of our members that "the Karl Marx Club will burst up soon because we have got Huns, Jews, Dutchmen, Irish and Americans in it. They cannot agree; they will be in one another's wool." The wish is father to the thought. Oh; it makes them sick to see us succeed.

We celebrated Karl Marx's birthday for the first time in our present headquarters, and the celebration was a splendid success, both financially and agitationally. The May Day celebration was the same. Kruse spoke in English and Stern in Hungarian, both speakers being in fine shape, "old war horses" both. The speakers explained why May Day is celebrated by the proletariat, and the necessity for Industrial Unionism, which we need very badly in this capitalist burg. Sunday we hold a special meeting of the "dead S. L. P." and I hope to be able to send you good news.

"Militant."

Schenectady, N. Y., May 11.

BE WARY OF GOING TO KNOXVILLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—No individual in possession of a normal cerebrum will be deceived by the full-page advertisements now boosting Knoxville in out-of-town newspapers. These paroxysms of hot air express nothing but the dying groans of the local cockroach tradesmen who now squirm in agony at the close proximity of approaching bankruptcy. These labor-skinners and pulpit patronizing hypocrites were a short time back screeching and praying for prohibition and prosperity, the prohibition and prosperity that they have now received—in the neck—and being surfeited with this brace of blessings they now emit cowardly, agonizing shrieks for help, firing their last rockets and C. Q. D. messages in pathetic appeals for financial assistance.

White-skinned "free Americans"—I dare not call them men—are working in the railroad shops for the munificent pay of 8½ cents per hour; hundreds elbow each other in the scramble for the daily 75 cents paid by factory owners, and the poor illiterate native, whose education rivals that of the Hottentot, is compelled to cut out a third of his ambrosial ration of corn-bread and hog fat. Unemployed there are in hundreds, and the sickening poverty-stricken scenes to be witnessed in the slums would melt the heart of a bronze statue.

Meanwhile faker "evangelists" at revival meetings rake in the crisp notes and clinking silver of feather-bedecked empty-headed females and addle-pated trousered things who profess, forsooth, to believe in the teachings of the lowly Nazarene. If there is a sitting-down part to Dixie's anatomy it is assuredly Knoxville, consequently that city is a very good one to remain unacquainted with. It is the home, sweet home, of poverty, prejudice, pimps, parsons and puerilities.

K. Kildare.

Knoxville, Tenn., May 10.

P. S.—Two or three Red flag disciples of this superstition-soaked city will be glad to trek eastwards if any comrade will drop a hint as to where the all-essential jobs may be found.

K. K.

A QUESTION.

To the Daily and Weekly Peiple:—In all sincerity of allegiance to the revolutionary movement of the proletariat, I wish to question the wisdom of such demonstrations as that indulged in by Socialists of Detroit on May Day. I am basing my criticism on a news item of a daily paper, and while I realize that the item may be a fabrication or a warped report,—we all know the dexterity of the capitalistic press in that regard—I shall raise the issue simply to get the views in this matter of comrades better read and more clear on the tactics of Socialism than myself.

It seems that the Socialists of Detroit had a parade to commemorate the international holiday of Labor, and during the march a red flag, or a number of them, appeared over the heads of the militants. The hoisting of the flags acted as a signal, and immediately squads of the "helmeted heroes of our cities," of Detroit, charged the parade. The result of the melee was that many heads were put into such shapes as to baffle the most skillful of phrenologists. I really think that more than one of these Socialists, led into paths of reflection after the "battle" by an aching "dome," began to think that "discretion is the better part of valor" after all.

At this point I weaken just a little in my fault-finding, but a sympathetic feeling for the heads of comrades prompts me to continue.

Were they wise, did they show much reason in waving crimson flags when they knew very well beforehand that nothing but sores and bumps would be gained? The answer to this question must be the same as to the following: Would a person be wise who, with no means of self-protection, went into a pasture and waved a red cloth in the eyes of a fiery bull? Well, hardly. We most if us believe, and many of us know, that social progress cannot be made by hysterical waving of banners. If we must fight, let it be over vital principles, and not over flags whether red or tri-colored, and let us not waste our time nor our skulls in melodramatic acts that do no good, but only serve the minions of the ruling class as a pretext to break up our meeting and stop our demonstrations.

How much better it would be if the working class, saving for a better purpose all such futilely expended energy, should begin to organize industrially on the economic field and politically, and thus prepare themselves to seize economic power—the source of all power. Then when in the course of time they had secured enough of that power to protect themselves, let them, safe from economic despots, unfurl to the breezes of a happier land any colored flag they desire.

Gerald J. Sherwood.

Sparks, Nevada, May 3rd.

PORTLAND'S A. F. OF L.-IZED S. P.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—As a protest against the action of Judge Wright in Washington, in sentencing Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison to jail for supposed contempt in the Van Cleave stove case, the A. F. of L. and their friends the S. P. held a demonstration on Sunday, May 2.

About 1,600 men were in line. The parade was made up of the A. F. of L. locals in Portland, and the S. P. was the tail to the kite, bringing up the rear guard of the whole procession.

The speakers were the great and only Haywood, Lewis the Jap-hater, Hughes, and a local "labor leader" named Daly. The pure and simple labor leaders received Haywood with open arms.

Lewis, the Jap-hater, is a member of the Cement Workers' Union, and is local organizer of the S. P. His speech is reported quite accurately in this morning's "Portland Oregonian," as follows:

"It was E. J. Lewis, of the Cement Workers' Union, who called Judge Wright a 'corporation lackey.' Lewis was vindictive in his remarks concerning judges, but more particularly so toward the Citizens' Alliance. The latter, he said, could better be called the 'Traitors' Alliance.'

"'The man who employs the most Japs flies the Stars and Stripes the highest,' he said, 'and carries the biggest card in the Citizens' Alliance. The only qualification required of the members is that they shall hate the workingman who has brains enough to organize for his own protection. The Citizens' Alliance stands for the starving of American citizens and the fattening of the Japs. The Citizens' Alliance would make you see the stars and wear the stripes.'"

No more need be said to show that the S. P. has reached its place here in Portland, working cheek by jowl with craft unionism for exclusion of the "backward races," etc.; in other words, it is A. F. of L. in every phase.

A. Gillhaus.

Portland, Ore., May 3.

Ancient Society
By Lewis H. Morgan

This is a great work, furnishing the ethnologic basis to the sociologic superstructure raised by Marx and Engels.

While the work needs close study most of it is easy reading. The student will read, and re-read, and find, each time, fresh facts not noticed before, and the opening of wider vistas not discovered at previous readings.

Those readers who have less time at their disposal may not be able to profit by the work to its full extent, but even one reading will store their minds with valuable knowledge and broaden their horizon so as to enable them to grasp the meaning of events now going on better than they could otherwise do.

The previous editions of the work were expensive, four dollars a volume being almost prohibitive, but the work is now within the reach of all.

The Labor News is prepared to furnish the work at the PRICE OF $1.50.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
28 City Hall Place, New York.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

G. J. S., SPARKS, NEV.—It is a common thing that in the measure some people find it impossible to work in the acre of the Social Question, they resort to symbolism. The waving of red flags has, in such cases, exactly the sense of the conduct of the woman, who, having maintained against her husband that a certain thing was scissors, while he claimed it was a knife, and her head being put by him under water to stop her mouth, raised her hand and with her fingers made the sign of scissors.

L. P., ATTLEBORO, MASS.—The Paris postal employes are organized industrially—as far as their industry is concerned. The Union embraces, not only the mail clerks, but also the telegraphers in the postal service. They are not yet affiliated with the other trades. Hence their industrialism is only partial.

A. S. MILWAUKEE, WIS.—The address of the London "Socialist Review" is 23 Bird Lane, Fleet street, London, F. C., England. Price 6 pence a copy.

W. W. C., OXFORD, ENG.—The Brotherhood of the railway service have occupied, and to a great extent still occupy in America, a strategic position in the Labor Movement. The backward condition of the Labor Movement, and the pitiful state of the railway employes themselves—their reports of deaths and injuries sustained read like reports from a battle field—is explained by the circumstance that these very railway organizations are craft Unions. The consequence is that each is used by the railway magnates against all the others, and all the others against each. The Brotherhoods have regularly scabbed it on one another at strikes. No strike of any of the Brotherhoods succeeds—the other Brotherhoods regularly help out the employer. Not being industrially organized, each time one Brotherhood has troubles the other Brotherhoods say it is none of their business.

J. M. F., DU QUOIN, ILL.—There can not be ONE organization that attends to both the economic and the politicial functions of the Labor Movement. The reason is obvious. The political functions are determined by geographical demarkations. Within a Congressional district all sorts of trades and occupations live. The Congressional fight, for instance, has to be carried on by an organization regardless of occupations. On the other hand, the economic functions know no geographic demarkations, they only know the demarkations established by the tool they work with.

D. B. M., GRANITE, OKLA.—Now to the sixth question—

Understanding by "farmers" the rural proletariat, their economic independence will be, must be, can only be an event simultaneous with the economic independence of the urban proletariat. The economic independence of neither can be reached without both are industrially organized. The "farmer" proper, however pauperized, can not be said to obtain "economic independence" through Socialism. What he obtains does not come under the technical meaning of "economic independence." What he gains is the loss of the illusion of property which, like a millstone, hangs around his neck. "Economic independence" means the casting off of the yoke of wage slavery.

Last question next week.

H. F., PHILADELPHIA, PA—Now to the last question—

Eugene Sue was considered a Socialist. He was of the school of Socialism such as conditions shaped in the early and middle part of the last century.

H. H. R., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.—Now to the third question—

All Socialists are agreed that the means necessary for production must be Socialized.

Next question next week.

S. S., CHICAGO, ILL.—Now to the third question—

The relation that political economy occupies towards sociology is like the relation that jurisprudence occupies towards history, or astronomy towards geology. Without the knowledge of jurisprudence no history can be understood; without the knowledge of astronomy much in geology is dark. Without the knowledge of political economy sociology—the science of social evolution—is confused.

Next question next week.

W. R. S., WIGAN, ENG.—Now to the next subsidiary point—

As a matter of fact, the employed members of the working class do feed, if not all, still many of their unemployed fellow wage slaves. They do so even at times of crisis. It is done directly and indirectly. One of the indirect methods is the making of room for some unemployed member of the Union, by letting him earn a few hours' wages which he who makes the room foregoes.

Next subsidiary question next week

W. G., PORTLAND, ORE.—Now to the third question—

The ballot is not a capitalist tool. The ballot is a tool of civilization, wrung by advancing civilization from the clutches of barbarism.

Next question next week.

E. P. J., SEATTLE, WASH.—Democracy is not lunacy. It is no part of democracy the theory that everyone is fit for everything. Socialist democracy recognizes and maintains that there is no work that is degrading, if such work is needed by society. Socialist democracy, accordingly, esteems all useful work as equally worthy. As a consequence hereof, democracy, Socialist democracy, causes every man to know what he is fit for and to take his place with dignity.

The slave of arrogance and pride
He has no hearing on the prudent side,
His still-refuted quirks he still repeats,
New raised objections with new quibbles meets,
Till sinking in the quicksand he defends,
He dies disputing, and the contest ends.

J. F. M., GRANITE, OKLA.—Excuse interruption in answering your questions. The card containing them happened to get buried under the mass of letters on the Letter-Box file. As to your second question—

The difference between evolution and revolution is that they mark different periods in the identical process. Evolution begins, for instance, from the instant conception takes place, and continues until the hour of birth sounds. At that stage of evolution the evolutionary process is so accelerated that it becomes revolution. The evolutionist, who knows what he is saying, must be an eventual revolutionist. The revolutionist, who knows what he is saying, must be an evolutionist. The evolution that does not mature in revolution is an addled egg; the revolution that is not preceded by evolution is a flash in the pan.

Next question next week.

S. W., NEW YORK.—The chemical editor says that a chemist can ascertain the component parts of a liquid or solid, but can not ascertain the process of making the compound.

H. B., MILWAUKEE, WIS.—The compositors in this establishment have held a mass meeting, and unanimously resolved to join the Parisian strikers if you continue to write communications in lead pencil. All others take note.

W. S. S., NEW YORK.—The public school lectures are over for this season.

R. W. T., ERIE, PA.; W. T. L., MONTREAL, CANADA; E. F. H., SEATTLE, WASH.; H. B., MILWAUKEE, WIS. Matter received.

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○ ○ ○

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The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
Paul Augustine, National Secretary.
28 City Hall Place.
CANADIAN S. L. P.
National Secretary, Philip Courtenay,
144 Duchess Ave., London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
(The Party's literary agency.)
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

WANTED.

The National Executive Committee desires applications from Party members for position as organizer and canvasser for the Socialist Labor Party and its Press. Address applications to the undersigned.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary.
P. O. Box 1576, New York City.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE.

A regular meeting of the N. E. C. Sub-Committee was held at National Headquarters on Wednesday evening, May 12, with Malmberg in the chair. Present: Ball, Schrafft, Malmberg, Gollerstepper, Schwartz, Rosenberg, Lechner and Lafferty. Absent: Deutsch, Hall, Butterworth. Absent and excused: Kihn.

Financial Report: Receipts, $276.41; expenses, $386.01.

Committee having in charge the examination of the Constitution of the Lettish Socialist Labor Federation, reported certain changes would have to be made to conform with Party's Constitution, and recommended same for adoption by the Federation. Moved by Gollerstepper, seconded by Schrafft: "That the report of the committee be adopted, and the Constitution of the Lettish Socialist Labor Federation be referred to that organization with recommendations." Carried. Moved by Gollerstepper, seconded by Rosenberg: "That the application of the Lettish Socialist Labor Federation be accepted, and that the action of this N. E. C. Sub-Committee on same be referred to the N. E. C. for approval." Carried.

Correspondence: From Colorado S. E. C., financial report, and reporting on organization matters. Massachusetts S. E. C., sending financial report, ordering supplies and due stamps, also reporting conditions in Fall River. J. C. Custer, Bridgeport, Conn., regarding recent "Unity Conference." Philadelphia, Pa., reporting agitation and organization work, prospects for securing new members and asking information. El Paso County, Colo., seconding proposed amendments of Section Cook County. Cleveland, Ohio, regarding Party Organ. Cook County, Ill., requesting information regarding Party Organs and their amendment. Portland, Ore., regarding increased activity since Gillhaus arrived and ordering due stamps. Bridgeport, Conn., acknowledging receipt of communication regarding "Unity Conference." George Nelson, Dorchester, Mass., regarding General Agitation Fund matter. Richard Williams, Fall River, Mass., application for membership, referred to Massachusetts S. E. C. as requested. Chas. Kuharich, Denver, Colo., requesting information regarding Party Press and literature. J. Mooney, Seattle, Wash., referred to Section Seattle. A. Gillhaus, Seattle, Wash., reporting organization and agitation matters. Scandinavian Socialist Labor Federation, sending names of newly elected executive board and national secretary. D. B. Moore, Granite, Okla., regarding speaker for large meeting to be held in July.

Adjournment.

Max Rosenberg, Secretary.

EDWIN MARKHAM'S

THE MAN WITH THE HOE

IS A CONDENSED DESCRIPTION OF THE DEGRADATIONS OF THE PROLETARIAN, SYMBOLIZED IN, AND INSPIRED BY, JEAN FRANCOIS MILLET'S PAINTING OF THE HOE-MAN. ITS PATHOS CANNOT HELP BUT APPEAL TO THE SOCIALIST.

We have but few on hand.

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J. C. Custer, Bridgeport, Conn.	.75
D. Rudnick, Chicago, Ill.	.50
Section Houston, Texas	10.10
Proceeds of Concert and Dance by G. Boston Press Com.....	9.33
Fred Herman, Lincoln, Neb...	.50
Millie Herman, Lincoln, Neb.	.50
E. B. Mercadier, San Jose, Cal.	1.75
Total	60.43
Previously acknowledged ..	4,555.76
Grand Total	$4,616.19

N. Y. S. E. C., S. L. P.

A regular meeting of the New York State Executive Committee, Socialist Labor Party, was held on Friday evening, May 7, at the Daily People building, New York city. Scheurer in the chair. Present, Kuhn, Walters, Donohue and Moonelis; absent, Lynch.

Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Secretary reported having notified all members to attend; received letters from various members regarding National Campaign lists, advising disposition made of same; had written several comrades regarding State Organizership, had received no replies yet; arranged for meeting of Party members and others at Newburgh, for Sunday, May 16, National Secretary Augustine to attend; new financial report blanks will be sent to Sections in time for semi-annual reports in July. Action on report: matter of National Campaign lists transferred to financial secretary to wind up; other acts of Secretary approved.

Financial Secretary-Treasurer reports receipts, $43.30; expenditures, $126.99.

Decided that Henry Kuhn make a week's trip for party. Secretary to arrange dates at Albany, Troy, and Schenectady.

Canvas of vote for S. E. C. members showed the following elected: H. Kuhn, J. Donohue, J. Scheurer, W. A. Walters, M. L. Hiltner, G. H. Wilson, J. J. Hanlon, S. Moskowitz, and E. Moonelis. The reserve list in the order named are S. Winauer, H. D. Deutsch, H. Jager, J. P. Johnson, A. Grieb, G. Signarowitz, J. Lynch, A. Scheftel and J. Gold. Moskowitz and Winauer having notified secretary that they could not serve, therefore Deutsch and Jager become members of the committee. Secretary was instructed to notify all the elected members and those on the reserve list of the result of vote, requesting those elected to attend next meeting of the Committee Friday, May 21. Tabulated vote ordered sent to Sections. Adjourned.

Edmund Moonelis, Secretary.

SECTION NEW YORK'S PICNIC.

Rousing Outing at Ulmer Park on July 4th.

A meeting of the entertainment committee of Section New York County was held on Wednesday evening, May 12, for the purpose of making preliminary arrangements for a grand picnic and summer-night's festival celebrating the ninth anniversary of the Daily People. Ulmer Park (athletic field), Brooklyn, N. Y., is the place where the affair will be run off on SUNDAY, July 4th, commencing at 10 A. M. Price of admission for gentleman and lady has been decided upon at 25 cents; extra lady's ticket 15 cents. Tickets will be ready for distribution at the office of the organizer, L. Abelson, within a few days. A card announcing the affair will soon be ready and may be obtained from the organizer when ready.

Two conferences will be held for the purpose of completing arrangements, one on Wednesday, June 16, and another on Wednesday, June 30, at 28 City Hall Place, top floor. It should be noted that Ulmer Park is the easiest park to reach in Greater New York. Trains from Brooklyn Bridge go direct to Ulmer Park.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

WHAT DOING?

Were You Among the Doers of the Work of the Movement?

Last week the number of subscriptions received exceeded the expirations, for both the Daily and Weekly People; and yet the work was far from satisfactory—too many of the industrial centers were not heard from at all. New York city did not turn in a sub for the Weekly People, nor did Brooklyn, nor Buffalo. The entire state of New York turned in but four subs, or two less than were received from Jerome, Ariz.

Massachusetts sent 26 Weekly People subs; New Jersey sent but two, the big cities of Newark and Jersey City not being heard from. Missouri sent three subs, none of them from St. Louis. Minnesota sent five, St. Paul being silent. Wisconsin must be off the map—it wasn't heard from. From Indiana, 1; Illinois, 11; Conn., 12; Colorado, 10; Wash., 7; Mich., 2; California sent more Weekly People subs than N. J., N. Y., Ohio and Penn. put together.

This will give an idea of how the work of propaganda is NOT being done—there are others besides those mentioned. It should certainly bring the blush to the cheek of every S. L. P. man—The Active ones blushing, but not for themselves.

THE ACTIVE BRIGADE.

F. Knotek, Hartford, Conn.	6
J. Opman, Jerome, Ariz.	6
S. Ungerlider, Chicago, Ill.	8
M. Cody, Canal Zone	5
F. Brown, Cleveland, O.	4
J. H. Arnold, Louisville, Ky.	4
L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal.	4
Leon Plat, Attleboro, Mass.	4
F. Bohmbach, Boston, Mass.	4
O. J. Schwitzgebel, Kansas City, Mo.	2
E. Pryor, Bridgeport, Conn.	3
C. Kuharick, Denver, Colo.	3
A. Gillhaus, Portland, Ore.	5
C. Starkenberg, Alaska	2
J. B. Ferguson, Fruitvale, Cal.	3
J. U. Billings, Grand Junction, Colo.	2
Carl Baetz, Detroit, Mich.	2
G. H. Campbell, Winona, Minn.	2
L. Olsson, Tacoma, Wash.	4
J. R. Pulley, Fulton, Ky.	2
E. J. Morin, Duluth, Minn.	2
H. E. Long, San Francisco, Cal.	2
C. Pierson, Chicago, Ill.	2
C. A. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y.	2
John Lee, Beverly, Mass.	2
J. S. Hertzbrun, San Diego, Cal. ..	2
W. Kusta, Santa Margarita, Cal. ...	2
J. Schneider, Boston, Mass.	2
A. H. Baker, Mt. Vernon, Wash. ..	2

Interview yourselves, comrades, one and all, and see if you can satisfy yourselves with the fact that in the work of Socialist propaganda you are doing nothing.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

In Los Angeles they not only get subs, they push out literature as well, not spasmodically, but steadily. They ordered $8 worth last week. Section Cleveland, O., has a good list of Weekly People readers; it also disposes of lots of books and literature. Comrade Kircher's order last week was $20.00. Other orders were :

New Castle, Pa.	$7.05
Indianapolis, Ind.	10.40
Harry Thal	19.50
Denver, Colo.	7.50
Spokane, Wash.	3.75
Buffalo, N. Y.	7.70
Edinburgh, Scotland	3.87
Boston, Mass.	2.00
Tacoma, Wash.	2.00
Altoona, Pa.	1.00
Meriden, Conn.	1.00
San Francisco, Cal.	1.00
Ishpeming, Mich.	1.00
Lisbon, N. D.	1.00

MINNESOTA S. E. C.

Minnesota S. E. C. of the Socialist Labor Party met at 838 Edmund street, St. Paul, Minn., on May 1, M. A. Overby in the chair. Present: Johnson, State Secretary H. Carstensen, Dougherty and McCue. Absent: S. Johnson, Smith, Cikanek. Smith and Cikanek excused.

Minutes of last meeting approved.

Correspondence:— From M. J. Cikanek as to change of S. E. C. meeting place; Overby relative to getting papers from Otto Olson; Olson, and remittance of $2.47; Section Winona remittance of $1.80 for due stamps; Paul Augustine two letters regarding organizing a Section in Parker's Prairie, Minn; August Gilhaus regarding S. L. P. work in Minnesota.

One hundred due stamps ordered purchased.

Financial report postponed to next meeting.

Decided to meet again June 5.

Adjourned.

W. E. McCue, Recording Secretary.

MINNESOTA S. E. C.

Regular meeting of Minnesota State Executive Committee, S. L. P., was held at 275 Duke street, St. Paul, Minn., April 3, with Samuel Johnson in the chair. Present: Cikanek, Carstensen, Johnson, McCue. Absent: Peterson, Dougherty, Smith.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Correspondence: From G. H. Campbell, Winona, Minn., member of N. E. C. containng pledge; from Paul Augustine.

Report of auditing committee accepted.

Report of State Secretary accepted.

Decided to have S. E. C. advertisement in Weekly People changed. Decided to request Ex-State Secretary Olson to attend next meeting.

Financial report:—Income, $3; no expenses ;balance on hand $13.60.

Decided to meet May 1.

Adjourned.

Wm. E. McCue,
Recording Secretary.

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CLEVELAND, S. L. P. CITY CONVENTION.

Section Cleveland, Socialist Labor Party, will hold its City Convention on SUNDAY, June 6, 3 p. m., at Schloss' Hall, 356 Ontario street (Hall No. 7), near Market (German-American Bank building). Candidates for the municipal election will be nominated, besides adopting a platform and resolutions, and transacting such other business as may come before the convention. It should be made a point of duty by every member, comrade and sympathizer to be present.

Organizer.

DETROIT'S PROTEST METING!

The workingmen of Detroit are called upon to rise in protest against the ruffianly conduct of the Detroit police force which it displayed on May 1 against workingmen and women. A monster PROTEST MEETING will be held on SUNDAY, May 23, 2:30 p. m., at Arbeiter Hall, Russell street, Detroit. Speakers in different languages will address the gathering and expose the inexcusable brutality of the bluecoats.

Workingmen, show by your presence that you will not relinquish your rights as a workingman or a citizen! Help along the work of education to unite the workers as a class politically and industrially. Turn out, one and all!

"The People"

Official Organ of and Owned by the
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A Weekly Paper published for the purpose of spreading Socialist Principles and organizing Socialist Thought. Its mission is to educate and prepare the working class for the approaching day of their emancipation from wage slavery; to point the way to class-conscious organization for economic and political action that the days of capitalist bondage might be quickened unto the dead things of the past.

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28 City Hall Place, New York.

CHURCH AND INDUSTRY.

Brown University President, in Sermon, Sounds New Activity for Church.

Providence, R. I., May 17.—In a sermon before the Central Baptist Church here, President H. O. Faunce of Brown University spoke of the crisis confronting the church. After tracing the history of industrial questions of olden times, Dr. Faunce said in part:

"Industry occupies the central position in the modern world to-day. If the church has no message on this subject, then the industrial world will turn to another faith that will come nearer to its daily life and will know something of its aspirations.

"How the kingdom of industry, man's daily toil, can be made a part of the kingdom of God is the problem that we must solve. The chief stealing today is not through deeds of violence, but by the men who profit by deception in trade, who accept remuneration and do not perform the work which the remuneration call for, who do not give honest work in return.

"It was given to me the other day to see a memorial to the visible honesty of a modern contractor. Governor Hughes of New York was escorting me through the magnificent but costly capitol at Albany, and he showed me the ceiling which the contractor had agreed to make of solid oak. Yet after he had been paid for it, and he had turned over his work to the State, a workman walking above it, placed his foot upon it, and his foot went through it. The oaken ceiling proved to have been made of papier mache.

"Again, a representative of the Bricklayers' Union was asked recently, if it was true that the union discourages its members from performing their best work. He answered that he did not know anything about that, but what he did know was that whenever a start is made on a new building, the slowest and less efficient workers are put to do the beginning of the work.

"A few years ago, a fire started on board an excursion steamboat in New York harbor, and when the passengers went to take the life preservers, it was found that they were filled with pieces of iron to give them some semblance of solidity. The manufacturer of these life preservers may have been a modern business man, but he was a murderer at heart.

"The Trinity Church corporation of New York City, recently published a statement of its financial affairs, the first statement it has made since 1814. Previous to that time, whenever a request was made for such a statement, the corporation answered, 'This is our private business with which the public has nothing whatever to do.' The public wanted to know, however, on the ground that vast revenues constitute a public trust and the Trinity Church corporation finally decided to make the statement.

"The industrial revolution has been brought about by the introduction of steel and machinery, and this revolution has brought great changes with it. The greatest of these changes is the impersonal relation between employer and employe."

Something good for our German reading comrades and friends. Fiction but more than fiction.

Two dramas from proletarian life by Richard Koeppel.

"EIN VERLORENER"
(A Ruined Life.)
Price 15 Cents.

"DER TRUNKENBOLD"
(The Drunkard.)
Price 15 Cents.

Instructive, Interesting, Entertaining, Enlightening.
Real Socialist Literature.

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Monday, May 31, '09 (Decoration Day)
DANCING FROM 2-10 P. M. MUSIC by KRONSTROM'S ORCHESTRA.
Sports and games of all kinds. Speech by Arthur Reimer of Boston.
ADMISSION: Gents, 50 Cents; Ladies, 35 Cents
Children under 12 years of age accompanied by relatives free.

PLATFORM

Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1908.

The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory to the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness.

We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land on and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production.

We hold that the existing contradiction between the theory of democratic government and the fact of a despotic economic system—the private ownership of the natural and social opportunities—divides the people into two classes: the Capitalist Class and the Working Class; throws society into the convulsions of the Class Struggle; and perverts government to the exclusive benefit of the Capitalist Class.

Thus labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessaries of life.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party raises the banner of revolt, and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class.

The time is fast coming when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises, on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations, on the other hand, will have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them.

And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

History. EUGENE SUE'S Fiction.
THE MYSTERIES OF THE PEOPLE
OR
HISTORY OF A PROLETARIAN FAMILY ACROSS THE AGES

A FASCINATING work, thrilling as fiction, yet embracing a comprehensive history of the oppressing and oppressed classes from the commencement of the present era.

Eugene Sue wrote a romance which seems to have disappeared in a curious fashion, called "Les Mysteres du Peuple." It is the story of a Gallic family through the ages, told in successive episodes, and, so far as we have been able to read it, is fully as interesting as "The Wandering Jew" or "The Mysteries of Paris." The French edition is pretty hard to find, and only parts have been translated into English. We don't know the reason. One medieval episode, telling of the struggle of the communes for freedom is now translated by Mr. Daniel De Leon, under the title, "The Pilgrim's Shell" (New York Labor News Co.). We trust the success of his effort may be such as to lead him to translate the rest of the romance. It will be the first time the feat has been done in English.—N. Y. Sun.

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